

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

February 18, 2019, 7:00PM, St. Louis Room

Present: Jarrett Wendt, Deacon Ron Smith, John Wilson, Doreen Berg, Julie Haas, Mary Ross,
Cynthia Shriver (recorder)

- A. Call to Order – Doreen called the meeting to order.
- B. Opening prayer – Ron led the opening prayer.
- C. Welcome & Introductions- None
- D. In Service – Ron showed a video about sex and labor trafficking and how prevalent it is in Iowa. He distributed several documents on the subject.

BUSINESS MEETING

A. MINUTES

- 1. January Draft Minutes – Cynthia. **The minutes were approved by consensus.**

- B. **CORRESPONDENCE:**– Thank you – Primary Health Care, MICA, Story County Dental, Birthright; Newsletter – National Alliance for the Mentally Ill
Notes- Wellspring Missions is building more wells in South Sudan.

C. FINANCIALS - Jean

- 1. January Financial Report. January 1 Beginning Balance: \$68,953.73. Monetary receipts in January: \$4,725.64, Expenditures: \$4,586.05, Ending Balance: \$69,093.32.
- 2. Thanksgiving Collection. **By consensus, it was agreed that the 2018 Thanksgiving collection of \$2,170.21 will be donated to MICA for Food Bank purchases.**
- 3. Discretionary Funds. \$9,423.57. Several suggestions were discussed dealing with hunger issues faced by children during breaks from school and the use of the money in the Housing First initiative.

D. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Pastoral Council – Sarah. No new information
- 2. Foster Care Presentation Request – Garland. YSS needs more foster parents. Committee members were enthusiastic about co-sponsoring an educational presentation to the parish and asking STA to join the effort.

E. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Social Justice Ministry Fair February 17 – Doreen. The ministry fair went well despite the poor weather conditions not allowing several agency representatives to attend.
- 2. Sister Water Project February 20 – Doreen. The presentation has been postponed due to the uncertain weather forecast.
- 3. Advocacy/Publicity
 - *Quarterly Newsletter – February 16/17. The newsletter featured the Sister Water Project. Thank you, Lynn.
 - *Bulletin Board/Newsletter – Lynn. Theme-Feeding the Hungry
- 4. Respect Life and Social Justice Formation – Ron. No new information.
<https://www.dbqarch.org/offices/respect-life/respect-life-and-social-justice-formation-for-all/>
- 5. Committee reports:
 - a. Climate Action Team (CAT) – John passed a petition around for signatures to present to the Ames City Council and ISU. The petition asks for quick action on addressing and implementing strategies to deal with climate change. There is a need to keep the subject in the public's attention. Hopefully, there will be a joint task force to put into place a program for the city and university to address the issue. It is anticipated that the task force will be in place by April.
 - b. AMOS – Kathy Wipf
 - *Housing First. Doreen and Kathy attended an AMOS cluster meeting on April 5th. They will attend a Community Conversation, Permanent Supportive Housing in Story County on February 20th, along with other AMOS members, agencies, county and city organizations.
 - c. Community ID Program – Nancy. The project is a go and is expected to start in March.
 - d. Ames Interfaith Refugee Alliance-Nancy. No new information.
 - e. Good Samaritan - Lynn
 - * January food pantry donation – 557 pounds – Tina Richard
 - * February envelopes, cart and food transfer- Pat and Barb Tallman
 - * March envelopes, cart and food transfer – Gordie Miller
 - f. Hunger Collaboration – Doreen. Minutes of the January 17 meeting are available. Member organizations include Salvation Army, Hunziker and Associates, MICA, Bread for the World, MGMC, Story County, St. Cecilia, Food Bank of Iowa, and Primary Care. FAF is not a member.
 - g. Food at First –Julie (January average 57.9 meals per day)
 - h. Good Neighbor – Charlie and Lori met on February 5. GNEA received a \$5,000 from MGMC to provide additional food vouchers for any children in a household. Agencies continue to evaluate

opportunities for interagency collaboration. Charlie suggested that the Mission and Vision Long Range Planning committee consider what assistance is an emergency and what is routine. Charlie will serve on the Public Relations and Community Relations committee. Doreen, Charlie and Cynthia will meet with Lori in March. Anyone with previous experience with GNEA is invited to attend. (Written report is available).

- i. Restorative Justice - Barb/Ron. Things are slow at the SC Jail Ministry.
*Butterfly House – Barb. There is currently one resident and another is expected to come.
*Matthew 25 House – Ron. No new information.
Ron announced that Barb Moore has been recognized in the Catholic Charities newsletter for her role as a Jail and Prison Ministry Volunteer and as the Jail and Ministry Volunteer Area Coordinator for Story County on the Jail and Ministry Advisory Board.
 - j. Individual Assistance – Ron. Requests are down for the month. Several individuals who have been asked to fill out applications have not responded.
 - k. Emergency Residence Project – Julie. ERP continues to make progress on many fronts. The Street Outreach program is still being developed and it is hoped that someone from the area of mental health will join the group. The shelter was kept open during the day during the extremely cold weather. \$9,400 was spent on motel vouchers in January. The Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing programs continue to be successful. Thank you to David Derks and Ron Bratrch-Prince who volunteered their own time and money to renovate the lower level of the duplex. The goal for the annual fundraising mailing was met. 70% of the annual needed funds were achieved. (Written report is available).
 - l. Sanctity of Life – Garland. Minutes of the February 19 meeting are available. Several ideas were presented to determine which will be implemented in the coming year.
 - m. Home for Awhile – Mary. The open apartment in January went to a mother living in an abusive relationship. (Written report is available).
 - n. Days for Girls – Mary. The \$1,000 donation from Altrusa will be used for supplies and the repair of the sergers. Memorial donations in honor of Gloria Cain were received. There are several events where volunteers from a variety of clubs/faith groups will meet to help with the kits. An article on DfG was in The Tribune and in Facets. (Written report is available).
6. Additional concerns. Cynthia stated that the preparation for CRS Rice Bowl is continuing. Rice bowls will be available starting the weekend before Ash Wednesday. There will be lector announcements and bulletin and Let's Stay Connected communications. Lynn will leave a portion of the bulletin board for rice bowl publicity.

F. Prayer/Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned with a prayer.