

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes
June 17, 2019, 7:00PM, St. Louis Room

Present: Lynn Franco, Mary Ross, John Wilson, Nancy Heideman, Kathy Wipf, Julie Haas, Rick Brimeyer, Jean Boot, Charlie Weber, Doreen Berg, Jarrett Wendt, Cynthia Shriver, Missy Sanow

Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

- A. Call to Order – Doreen called the meeting to order.
- B. Opening Prayer – The meeting was opened with a prayer.
- C. Welcome & introductions were made.
- D. Guest – Missy Sanow, Martha’s House of Hope. Missy Sanow, recently appointed director of Martha’s House of Hope (MHH), spoke about the current status of the house and program. MHH is a Christian based maternity home that provides a safe family home for mother and child during the pregnancy and up to a year after the baby is born. They are hoping to be open by mid-August. Their current needs are listed on their website (info@marthashouseofhope.org). Rick Brimeyer, from Family Life, spoke of the proposed parish-wide service project which will be sponsored by Family Life and Social Justice. He stated that a good example of a parish-wide service project would be to ask parishioners to donate specific items that are needed by organizations such as MHH. See D3.

BUSINESS MEETING

A. MINUTES

- 1. May Draft Minutes – Lynn. **Minutes were approved by consensus.**

- B. CORRESPONDENCE:**– Thank you – MICA/Story County Dental Clinic, Advisory Board Story County Dental Clinic, Primary Health Care

C. FINANCIALS - Jean

- 1. May Financial Report. Reviewed. A new feature was incorporated into the May report. Three months of payments instead of two months, were earmarked for monthly recurring expenses.
- 2. Discretionary Funds were discussed. No decisions were made but several items need to be addressed. Do we want to keep at least \$2,000.00 back for unexpected expenses and do we want to keep three instead of two months in reserve for monthly recurring expenses? There was a sentiment expressed that we should not let money sit.
- 3. 2019-2020 Budget Preparation. Jean will incorporate the suggestions into the 2019-2020 budget and email them to committee members as well as presenting the budget at the next meeting for committee approval.
- 4. Individual Assistance – Guidelines and Applications were reviewed. **By consensus, it was agreed that on the application for assistance from STC the last statement should read “I understand that due to the large number of requests for help, St. Cecilia *may* only give assistance one time per year per household.”** Father Jim, Deacon Ron, Bill, Doreen, Mary, and Jean did meet as planned.

D. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Pastoral Council – Sarah. No report.
- 2. Rice Bowl – Cynthia reported that \$2,920.44 was collected this year for CRS Rice Bowl with \$477.19 donated by the school. Since this is on the low side compared to past years, she asked for suggestions for next year. There has never been a trend, up or down, over the years. It was suggested that she contact the heads of Faith Formation to determine if they would be willing to incorporate the program into their lessons. There are many on-line resources. Individuals, who know what they will contribute before the Easter collection, should be encouraged to use the rice bowl envelopes and deposit them in the collection baskets anytime during Lent.
- 3. Parish-Wide Service Project – Parish Life Committee. See D. A list of possible parish-wide projects was distributed.
- 4. Committee Space Responsibility - Father Secora, Bill Klein. The memo reviewed church committees’ responsibilities for leaving rooms in good order.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Advocacy/Publicity – Lynn. Bulletin board supplies were purchased from the committee's general funds which are given to us by the Pastoral Council each year.
*Bulletin Boards. See above.
2. Respect Life and Social Justice Formation – Ron. No report.
<https://www.dbqarch.org/offices/respect-life/respect-life-and-social-justice-formation-for-all/>
3. Committee reports:
 - a. Climate Action Team (CAT) – John. Written report available. John is in communication with Jeff Witt about setting up a presentation for the parish on SunSmart Ames.
 - b. AMOS – Kathy Wipf. Written report available. Many events are planned. Kathy emphasized the upcoming AMOS fundraiser to be held at UUFA on June 28. Additional information is posted on St. Cecilia's Facebook page. Donations envelopes are/were available. There will be an AMOS Cluster meeting at STC on August 6.
 - c. Community ID Program-Nancy. Written report available. The next Community ID drive in Ames will be June 27. David Hansen and Maria Alcivar are forming a group called the Ames Interfaith Sanctuary Partners. They wish to come to speak at STCSJ. The group realizes that the church cannot be a sanctuary but would like to inform individuals about what they can do.
 - d. Ames Interfaith Refugee Alliance – Nancy. Written report available. The request for fans that was made last month is no longer relevant since it was determined that fans are available from MICA. The sponsored family has on-going needs such as diapers and laundry detergent.
 - e. Good Samaritan - Lynn
* May food pantry donation – 351pounds – Gordie Miller
* June envelopes, cart, food transfer – Tom and Dorothy Sally
 - f. Hunger Collaboration – Doreen (no report). The group is looking for a new community impact director. No meetings have been held recently.
 - g. Food at First –Julie (May average meals per day – 69.5), (9,941 meals YTD through May 31, 2019). They are short of gleaners (individuals who pick up product at the contribution locations}. Gleaners use their own cars and sign up for a particular location and time.
 - h. Good Neighbor – Charlie. Written report available. Good Neighbor has become a sponsor in Story County Alliance for Philanthropy (<https://www.storycountyphilanthropy.org/>). The Board is starting work on the annual fall choir concert. Charlie is on the ballot to become President-elect next year. Thank you, Charlie, for taking on this responsibility.
 - i. Restorative Justice - Barb/Ron. Written report available.
*Butterfly House – Barb. Written report available.
*Matthew 25 House – Ron. No report.
 - j. Emergency Residence Project – Julie/Ben (No Report). ERP is still looking for a director since their two top choices declined the position.
 - k. Sanctity of Life – Garland. Written report available. The committee had a successful Mother's Day carnation sale with proceeds going to MHH. Informed Choices is now OBRIA.
 - l. Home for Awhile – Julie relayed a typical situation of a family in the program and how difficult it is for them.
 - m. Days for Girls – Mary. Written report available.
4. Additional concerns. None.

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