

# Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

June 15, 2015, 7:00PM, Sunroom

Present: Mary Ross, Deacon Ron, Julie Haas, Milla Charles, Todd Clancy, Lynn Franco, JoAnne Dalhoff, Marlene Weishaar, Doreen Berg, Cynthia Shriver

Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

## I. SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE

- A. Call to Order – Mary called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.
- B. Opening prayer – Ron led the opening prayer.
- C. Welcome, introductions-Members present introduced themselves.
- D. In-Service – Ron led the discussion regarding homosexuality and transgenderism.

## II. BUSINESS MEETING

- A. May minutes-Minutes were approved by consensus.
- B. Correspondence: The correspondence was passed around the table.  
Newsletter – NAMI  
Story County Community Housing – Invitation of annual meeting on June 15 at 7PM.
- C. New Business  
None
- D. Unfinished business
  1. Klingseis estate. Discussion centered around the viability of donating a significant portion of the \$108,000.00 to ERP to jump start an initiative to build a new transitional housing building. Deacon Alan believes it is very appropriate for a legacy donation like this and that it is very doable. It was generally agreed that housing is still the greatest need in Ames. There is also support to fund Deacon Ron with an emergency fund for individual assistance and to increase our support for Home for Awhile. Alternate ways of providing Ron with an emergency fund and increasing our funding for Home for Awhile were explored. It would be best if the donation to the emergency fund was yearly. One way would be to give our yearly discretionary funds to Ron. Home for Awhile would be a one-time donation to assist with the financing of a third apartment. Committee members were asked to think more about the issues raised in the discussion.
  2. Sister Parish- The Sister Parish committee will be under the Social Justice umbrella similar to the Gabriel Project and Sanctity of Life. The SJ committee will not be responsible for funding or leadership. Todd will ask a husband and wife team that he has in mind if they are willing to assume the leadership role. Fundraising would be parish wide. A clarification is still needed to determine the number and kinds of groups at STC and STA that are assisting at Divino Nino.
  3. Home for Awhile – Mary. An additional apartment has been rented for the project. Cornerstone is fronting the annual rent. Mary stated that the program is very well run and committee members were given an detailed explanation of the existing mentoring program and plans for future growth. **By consensus, the committee agreed to fund \$5,400.00 (one-half of the annual rent for the third apartment) to Home for Awhile.** It will come out of the Klingseis estate money.
  4. Days for Girls – The sewing project is going very well. **Mary suggested and the**

**committee agreed by consensus to ask for \$25.00 per month for fabric.**

Mary explained that although much of the fabric is donated there are still certain kinds of fabric that we need to buy.

5. Need board members or representatives for Good Neighbor, AMOS, Home for Awhile. Doreen has agreed to be on the board of FAF.
6. Pastoral Council – Todd stated that the PC and the Tithing Committee are still in discussion about tithing. One suggestion is to not use the term tithing and to promote charity in the context of how many people the parish helps.
7. Financial reports; Becca. Budget. No report.
8. Committee reports:
  - a. Good Samaritan Fund/Food Pantry donation: **222** pounds in May; **June 20/21** – *Lynn & Terry Franco*. Donations to the Food Pantry were down. Mary will place a Shop+1 announcement in the bulletin.
  - b. Hunger Coalition – Marlene reported the impressive number of organizations that are part of the coalition. Areas such as Zearing and McCallsburgh are food deserts. Marlene spoke highly of the ISU extension staff members who routinely go out in to the communities to assess needs.
  - c. Food at First –Doreen, Cynthia, Julie, Cindy. There is a suggestion to have a dining room host/hostess from 3:30 to 5:00 pm. Volunteers are asked to interact with the clients.
  - d. Good Neighbor - Doreen reported that Mike, the director, would like to increase the amounts given for gas and food vouchers. Board approval is necessary.
  - e. Restorative Justice – Ron. The request to hear confessions at the jail will be fulfilled by Father Rick Dagit from the Story-Marshall Catholic Cluster. The jail will purchase new American bibles and rosary sheets.
  - f. Individual Assistance – Ron. There is no money but there are plenty of requests.
  - g. Emergency Residence Project – Julie. The Executive Director’s job description has been approved by the Board. Staff benefit packages continue to be discussed.
  - h. AMOS
  - i. Gabriel Project - Bethany. Walk for Life on June 20 at Ada Hayden Park. The Knights will host a pancake breakfast for the event.
  - j. Sanctity of Life. No report.
  - k. Additional issues. Mary has asked her daughter to make a new sign for Good Samaritan weekends. Lynn will check but there should be three fourths of a box of Good Samaritan envelopes left in the old ushers’ room.
- E. Prayer/Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.