

## Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

May 16, 2016, 7:00PM, Sunroom

Present: Marlene Weishaar, Lynn Franco, JoAnne Dalhoff, Deacon Ron Smith, Barb Moore, Doreen Berg, Phyllis Craig, Julie Haas, Mary Ross, Becca Wemhoff, Carol Cornelius, Cynthia Shriver

Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

### I. SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE

- A. Call to Order – Mary called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
- B. Opening prayer – Deacon Ron led the opening prayer, *The Memorare*.
- C. Welcome, introductions. None
- D. Anne Owen. Will re-schedule.

### II. BUSINESS MEETING

- A. April minutes were approved by consensus.
- B. Correspondence

Thank you notes:

- Story County Dental Clinic – for \$150 from board member Pat Brown
- Food at First – for your donation
- Boys & Girls Club – for \$250
- St. Stephen the Witness Catholic Student Center – for \$500 from Fr. Ken Glaser

C. New business

D. Unfinished business

1. Sudan Orphanage. A representative would like to come speak to us.
2. Request from St. Thomas – Shari Reilly. **Mary received information regarding the social justice related activities that are done at the student center. By consensus, the committee agreed to donate \$500.00 to the STA Student Center. Funds will come out of Youth Missions.**
3. Klingseis estate. No new information.
4. Sister Parish. No new information.
5. Home for Awhile – Mary. No new information.
6. Days for Girls – Mary. Mary reported that St. Gerald's circle donated \$100.00 to the program.
7. Need board members or representatives for AMOS, Home for Awhile
8. Pastoral Council – Sarah. No report.
9. Financial reports – Becca. **Monetary Receipts: \$5,617.16, Estimated Value of Food Shelf Contributions: \$547.20.20, Disbursements: \$5,084.60, Bank Balance as of April 30, 2016: \$84,636.70, Discretionary Funds Available: \$6,542.71, April FAF budget balance to be paid to FAF in May \$166.87. May's Special Allocations: \$250.00 – Story County Community Housing. Becca presented a draft copy of the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. As presented, the proposed budget reflects a 0.8% increase in spending. Several changes to Becca's proposed budget were discussed: ERP will have a \$1200.00 per year increase, \$550.00 was subtracted from the Appalachia Committee with Lynn's blessing and with the stipulation that the money will be there if needed, \$200.00 was added to Days for Girls, and although money will be available for a speaker invited by Sanctity of Life, it will not be a line item in the budget. Under Youth Missions, \$400.00 will be available for the STA Student Center, the UNI Student Center and Saint Cecilia's Youth Ministry for a total of \$1,200.00. By consensus, the budget was approved with the above added modifications**
10. Request for reimbursement – Deacon Alan. **By consensus, the committee agreed to reimburse Deacon Alan \$210.00 for the purchase and installation of siding for a family whose mobile home experienced damage from vandalism.** The money will come out of the Holy Thursday collection that was specified for social justice. The remainder of the money, \$216.00, remains unmarked.
11. Committee reports:
  - a. Good Samaritan Fund/Food Pantry donation: **342** pounds in April (445# in 2015). *May 21/22 – Keith & Linda Huls; June 18/19 – Tom & Dorothy Sally. Mary will ask permission to*

*put the Good Samaritan Black Bag and Food Pantry announcements in as a bulletin announcement and as a lector announcement the week prior to the collection.*

- b. Hunger Coalition – Marlene. Marlene reported on the results of the food pantries survey. The group is deciding on what they want to do with the information. Regarding the bread at FAF, there is a lot of bread that is not being used to its full potential (Excess goes to feed livestock). There is a need to find additional avenues for dispensing the bread
- c. Food at First –Doreen. Following up on Marlene’s point, Doreen stated that FAF needs more volunteers to move bread to communities outside of Ames. Doreen stated that the board needs to move more food to more people and not to move more food to the same people. There will be a FAF Volunteer Appreciation Event on June 18, from 5-7 PM. More publicity will follow. Doreen completed the purchase of additional small bowls for FAF. The money comes out of the FAF monthly line item in the budget.
- d. Good Neighbor – Phyllis. There will be a fundraiser, a JJ Kaufman Concert, May 20, 7PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ames.
- e. Restorative Justice - Barb. Saturday meeting attendance is down. Butterfly House is expecting two women from Mitchellville. The former resident of BH has moved on. St Gerald’s Circle donated \$100.00 to the house. Raising Readers is hoping to have the Story County Jail be a place for children to pick up books.
- f. Individual Assistance – Ron. St Gerald’s Circle donated \$100.00 to Individual Assistance. The individual from the Sudan who we are supporting can apply for a work permit around July 4 and should be able to start work in August. A request for a food allowance increase was made.
- g. Emergency Residence Project – Julie. There are three applicants for Vic’s position. Julie and Cynthia Lidke did a walk-through of the four-plex. The basement apartments in the house are looking good. The first floor apartment in the duplex is livable. The second floor apartment needs improvement.
- h. AMOS. No report.
- i. Gabriel Project – Bethany. No information.
- j. Sanctity of Life – Garland. SJ committee members received copies of the minutes. Highlights included the need for ideas to counter the Iowa initiative on euthanasia and a request to send a letter to your personal physician to suggest they do not take a neutral or pro death stand on the issue.
- k. Additional issues. Doreen indicated that she had seen on the go fund me webpage that the family of the daughter of one of our parishioners was in need of a different vehicle that could accommodate special equipment for their handicapped child. An air conditioner for the home was also needed since the child’s seizures are more frequent in a hot environment. The air conditioner would cost ~ \$2,500.00. **The committee agreed by consensus to use up to \$2500.00 from the discretionary fund to purchase the air conditioner.** Doreen will get two other bids.<sup>1</sup>

D. Prayer/Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned with a prayer at 8:20 PM.

<sup>1</sup>After checking with the family, Doreen learned that Cyclone Contracting had already donated free labor for the installation of a furnace last winter and the \$2,354 .00 was already a reduced bid. In light of that Doreen suggested and the committee agreed by email to forgo getting any other bids and to proceed with the installation. The air conditioner was installed and is up and running. Additionally, Doreen spoke to Nick Johnson, general manager at Ames Lincoln Ford, and Nick agreed to work with the family. The family was thus able to trade in their car and purchase one that met their needs. Thank you, Doreen.