

## Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

August 21, 2017, 7:00PM, Oscar Romero Room

Present: Barb Moore, Mary Ross, Deacon Ron Smith, Deacon Charles Bernhard, Lynn Franco, Doreen Berg, Julie Haas, Jarrett Wendt, Cynthia Shriver

Recorded by: Lynn Franco, Cynthia Shriver

### SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE

- A. Call to Order – Mary called the meeting to order.
- B. Opening prayer. Deacon Charles led the opening prayers.
- C. Welcome, introductions
- D. In- Service-Ron. A video, featuring Father Robert Chaney, Diocese of Savannah, speaking on racism, was shown and it was followed by a discussion on whether racism exists in Ames.

### BUSINESS MEETING

- A. The July minutes were approved by consensus.
- B. Correspondence:
  - NAMI August 2017 NewsletterThank you notes
  - Story County Dental Clinic – two from MICA and one from Wallace Sanders (Advisor)
- C. New business
  1. Ames Crop Hunger Walk. **By consensus, the committee agreed to donate \$100.00 to the program** in support of the STC school children who we expect to participate and other St. Cecilia parishioners who may participate.
  2. Story County Housing Trust-\$50,000.00 is needed as a local match. Including contributions from the Story County Board of Supervisors and money received from some of the larger cities in the county, \$3,400.00 is still needed. **By consensus, the committee agreed to donate \$2000 (from the donation of an estate) to the housing trust.**
- D. Old business
  1. Fr. Farrell – July 19 at 7PM, Oscar Romero Room: *Laudato Si- the Care of Our Common Home* and disparity of wealth.
  2. Respect Life and Social Justice Formation. [dbqarch.org/rlsj/formation](http://dbqarch.org/rlsj/formation).  
<https://www.dbqarch.org/offices/respect-life/respect-life-and-social-justice-formationfor-all/>  
The program continues. It will go to the end of the year and will then start over.
  3. Klingseis estate- No new information.
  4. Need board member or representatives for AMOS. There will be an AMOS meeting on September 11.
  5. Pastoral Council- Jarrett. A program, offered this year by the organization “Evangelical Catholic” will be held on Thursday, September 7 from 7- 8:30 pm in the St. Cecilia Church Sanctuary. It is the 1% challenge...spend 1% of your day in prayer. This will be the first of 3 parish missions offered to us this year.
  6. Financial reports; Budget – Becca. Doreen will wrap up for the fiscal year.
  7. Parishioners’ assistance – Sarah and Jarrett. No new information.
  8. Committee reports:
    - a. Good Samaritan Fund/Food Pantry donation: **360 pounds in July**. Julie will check on August weight.
    - b. Hunger Collaboration – Doreen. Please go to the uwstory.org website for detailed information. Everything is going well.

- c. Food at First –Doreen. Last Sunday 340 gallons of sweet corn were frozen. The left over corn was sold. Beverly Baum’s estate amount \$41,854.57 was given to Food at First. Air conditioning for the downstairs was installed with these funds. Jethro’s Restaurant gave lots of food to Food at First and Walmart gave money for a van.
- d. Good Neighbor – Phyllis. Phyllis (Mary Ross reported for Phyllis) – the Tuscan Dinner fundraiser will be held on Saturday, August 19. Mary did not have other details.
- e. Restorative Justice - Barb. Butterfly House – Hannah Ann Anderson, board member and major leader at the house, passed away. Her funeral will be this week. Sad time. There is one lady living at the house at the moment. Also there is need for a house mother. Story County Jail - The Saturday morning visits are going very well.
- f. Individual Assistance – Ron. As usual, much assistance is needed. He had several contacts/requests for help in August.
- g. Emergency Residence Project – Julie.
  - Staff* - Troy is going to work only days (he’s been at the shelter for years). Tony has started as part-time maintenance. Sheila Merz has been hired as Transitional Housing/Volunteer Coordinator.
  - Property* - the garage is removed and work is now being done on drainage tiles and Rain Garden. Phase I must be completed by October 5 because United Way will be touring the backyard to see how their grant has been used. That money was used for tree removal and drainage tiles. A grant will be written to the City of Ames for the Rain Garden.
  - Foot lockers and dressers have been ordered for the basement apartments (room renovations and furniture was paid for by United Way Community Impact and the Dennis Byrne Foundation grants).
  - Transitional Housing* – The final draft of the TH handbook will soon be ready for review. There are currently 3 TH apartments open. Applicants will be interviewed. The Shelter has been at maximum capacity with 15 men and 6 women (who live in the basement apartments).
- h. Sanctity of Life – Garland. No report.
- i. Home for Awhile – Mary. There are more applicants than available housing; they are basically mothers with children and not much money.
- j. Days for Girls – Mary. The founder is coming to Johnston/DM this Wednesday and Thursday for a training workshop. About 1,800 kits have been made at St. Cecilia’s.

Other-Bishop Pates from Des Moines is coming to St. Cecilia’s to speak on September 18 (the same time as the next scheduled SJ meeting). It was decided to change our next meeting to Monday, September 11, 7 PM. Mary Ross will check with office to see if the Oscar Romero Room is available and will e-mail SJ members.

## E. Prayer/Adjournment