

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

January 15, 2018, 7:00PM, Oscar Romero Room

Present: Julie Haas, Mary Ross, Deacon Ron Smith, Lynn Franco, Jarrett Wendt, Phyllis Craig, Doreen Berg, Jean Boot, Barb Moore, Cynthia Shriver

Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE

- A. Call to Order – Mary called the meeting to order.
- B. Opening prayer - Ron led the opening prayer.
- C. Welcome & introductions
- D. In-Service – Ron led a discussion on what we remember of Martin Luther King and the impact of his legacy.

BUSINESS MEETING

- A. December minutes were approved as corrected by consensus.
- B. Correspondence-None
- C. Old business
 1. St. Vincent de Paul clothing drive – Jan.27/28. Donated items should be brought to the Narthex on Friday, Saturday or Sunday of that weekend. Mary will find out if we can get receipts for the donations.
 2. Story County Housing Trust. It was suggested that we do not make any financial commitment to SCHJ until more is known about their project to build six low income housing units.
 3. Respect Life and Social Justice formation. dbqarch.org/rlsj/formation. <https://www.dbqarch.org/offices/respect-life/respect-life-and-social-justice-formation-for-all/> There will be a program on February 6 dealing with health care.
 4. Klingseis estate. Nothing new.
 5. AMOS. Nancy Heideman will not continue as STC representative to AMOS. There may be another person interested in the position. Nancy submitted a report regarding AMOS' recent activity. Items reported on were the following: funding from the Story County Supervisors will not be pursued this year, a session to Train the Trainer for Civic Academies on taxes will be held at the Norwalk Christian Church on February 11 and there will be a follow up team to get answers to the questions raised at the 23rd Ames Amos Assembly. The next cluster meeting is March 12, 5:30 – 6:30 pm at UUFA. The different institutions who are part of AMOS rotate hosting the cluster meetings. **Can St. Cecilia host a meeting when it is our turn?** A “BRAKE LIGHT CLINIC” was held at Brookside Park on January 18. It is for individuals who have trouble keeping their vehicles up to code. There will likely be another one in the spring. A DACA dinner is scheduled for 11:30 AM on Sunday, January 21 at the Ames Friends Meeting House, 121 S Maple.
 6. Pastoral Council – Sarah. No report.
 7. Financial reports & budget – Doreen/Jean. Monetary Receipts: \$6,840.13, Estimated Value of Food Shelf Contributions (485 pounds x \$1.60) = \$776.00. Disbursements: \$4,250.00. Bank Balance as of December 31, 2017: \$75,054.12. Discretionary Funds Available: \$7,014.56. December budget balance to be paid to Food at First in January: \$266.81. Jean and Doreen introduced a new format

for reporting. Anna will get back to us regarding the funds set aside for Youth Missions.

8. Initiatives for Social Justice. Streamlining how we can get more parish members involved with SJ is a focus of the initiatives. Some ways that have been suggested in the past are: parishioner packets, using emails and sign-up genius, using simple infographics to highlight the work and rewards, and information in the stall pockets in the restrooms. Doreen will look into Sign-Up Genius.
9. Harvest of Blessings matching grant – Julie reported that there is no news on whether ERP will receive the grant.
10. Quarterly SJ newsletter. Please submit articles to Lynn by Feb. 18.
11. Committee reports:
 - a. Good Samaritan Fund/Food Pantry donation: **485 lbs. in December.**
 - b. Hunger Collaboration. The group will meet on Thursday to work on strategic planning and to update 3-4 pages in the Story County Resource Guide.
 - c. Food at First –Doreen. Volunteers are needed to help deep-clean the First Christian Church kitchen on Friday, January 19, at 9:30 AM.
 - d. Good Neighbor – Phyllis reported that there will be a board meeting tomorrow, January 16.
 - e. Restorative Justice - Barb. There are three residents currently in the Butterfly House and they are expecting a fourth on Friday. A part time person was hired to take over some of the duties that were being covered by volunteers.
 - f. Individual Assistance – Ron is in need of funds. He has been cutting back on the amount of help he can offer because of it.
 - g. Emergency Residence Project – Julie reported that the Rapid-Rehousing (RR) program and the Shelter Diversion (SD) program are continuing to be implemented. For RR, Carrie will reallocate responsibilities of the present staff and then hire a Housing Support Specialist which is funded by the grant. The SD strategy prevents homelessness by helping identify immediate alternate housing arrangements and to connect them with services and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing. Carrie is applying for two more grants. On January 21, ERP will participate in the Point in Time Count (PIT). During a 24 hour period, they will visit locations such as ERP, YSS, FAF, the Library, streets and woods to determine the number of people experiencing homelessness. This year, they are working with 2 Rivers. Carrie is training staff so that they become a housing-focused shelter.
 - h. Sanctity of Life – Garland. Minutes of the January 14 meeting were distributed.
 - i. Home for Awhile – Mary reported that there were two very qualified families applying for one opening. Sarah is looking for alternative ways of helping the family that was not chosen for Home for Awhile.
 - j. Days for Girls – Mary. The sewing room will most likely be moved.
12. Additional concerns. Ron will email Mary with some possible dates for us to sponsor Coffee and Donuts.

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