

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

November 18, 2019, 7:00PM, St. Louis Room

Present: Deacon Ron Smith, Doreen Berg, John Wilson, Nancy Heideman, Jean Boot, Charlie Weber, Jackie Royer, Julie Haas and Mike Brown

Recorded by: Jackie Royer

- A. Call to Order – Doreen
- B. Opening prayer – Ron.
- C. Welcome & Introductions - Jackie Royer and Mike Brown

BUSINESS MEETING

A. MINUTES

- 1. October Draft Minutes – Cynthia. The minutes were approved by consensus.

B. CORRESPONDENCE-Thank you- Story County Family Development Center (\$20 food pantry), Story County Dental Clinic (\$200).

C. FINANCIALS – Jean. The final September financial report and the tentative October financial report were reviewed. Food and financial donations were down in October. Possible explanations were discussed such as early departure from Mass, lower attendance and/or limited lector announcements.

D. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Pastoral Council – Welcome Mike Brown
- 2. Parish Wide Service Project – Parish Life Committee. Doreen reported from Rick Brimeyer the collection date for the paper products will be January 25/26. Collections will be sorted after the 5:00 Mass on the 26th. Doreen will ask Cindy Baughman and the deacons to help in identifying parishioners who may be in need. Donations will also be distributed to agencies that have already been identified.

E. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Respect Life and Social Justice Formation – Ron
<https://www.dbqarch.org/offices/respect-life/respect-life-and-social-justice-formation-for-all/>
 - a. World Day of Poor-Wednesday, November 20 at 7:00pm, Oscar Romero Room
- 2. Advocacy/Publicity – Lynn finished the November newsletter and it was inserted into the November 30/December bulletin. Thank you to Lynn for always doing a fine job. Lynn also updated the Social Justice bulletin board. Food at First is featured including pictures taken by Bill Haas. Thank you Bill.
- 3. Committee reports:
 - a. Climate Action Team (CAT) – John reminded the committee that the parish is working on acquiring people to ‘adopt’ one of the 65 solar panels through the City of Ames solar project that the parish has committed to. There will be more information from the parish soon.
 - b. AMOS – Kathy. Doreen reported for Kathy that the next Photo ID program will be on Saturday, December 7, 10:00-2:00 at the Ames Middle School
 - c. Ames Sanctuary Interfaith Partners (ASIP). Nancy reported the ASIP had its first Assembly on Monday, November 11. St. Cecilia and St. Thomas were both represented along with a number of other faith communities. Two of the other churches are working on events to show support of the immigrant communities. Others are in varying degrees of organization. Neither of the Catholic parishes are in a position to make a commitment at this time. We are still in the fact-finding phase.
 - d. Ames Interfaith Refugee Alliance – Nancy. Going well! They have a certified English instructor.

- e. Good Samaritan – Lynn will check with the school to determine if there is a way for the school children to help with the loading of the groceries,
 - * October envelopes, cart, food transfer – 451# by Gordie Miller
 - * November envelopes, cart, food transfer – Tom and Dorothy Sally.
- f. Hunger Collaboration – The new director for the group is Anneke Mundel (UWSC). Doreen provided flyers for the Salvation Army's toy and food sign up. She also provided a poster to display with information for the Iowa Food Bank.
- g. Food at First –October average meals per day - 72.3. The number of meals served this year thru October 31, 2019 – 20,949.
- h. Good Neighbor – Written report available. Good Neighbor concert raised over \$11,000. Social Justice will be participating in the annual parish Christmas Market on November 23/24.
- i. Restorative Justice – Written Email Report.
 - *Butterfly House – There are currently two residents and they are expecting a 3rd. Brenda Askildson, the housemother has passed away after a long illness.
 - *Matthew 25 House – Ron. No new information.
- j. Emergency Residence Project – Ben. No written report. Doreen will be meeting with a marketing firm hired by ERP to gather information about the perception and the future of ERP.
- k. Sanctity of Life – Garland. Written Report emailed to committee after the meeting (Doreen apologized for not including a printed copy in the packet).
- l. Home for Awhile – Mary. Written Report. The available apartment was given to a young mother of four children who had left an abusive relationship. (ACCESS has been full to capacity lately.) Mary will be doing a housekeeping inspection for one of the apartments.
- m. Days for Girls – Mary. Written report available. Volunteers from the ISU Society of Women Engineers volunteered at the Nov. 14 meeting. Carol and Mary (co-leaders) spoke at the ISU Women's Club on Nov. 18. Days for Girls will sell cinnamon rolls and some sewn items at the STC Christmas Market. Some DFG team members are volunteering for the Altrusa Holiday Tour of Homes on Dec. 7 & 8, since the sewing team will receive some of the proceeds from the tour. DFG again received a donation from Nevada Memorial Lutheran Church. After a busy summer and fall, DFG will take a break and not meet in December.
- n. Additional Concerns. John asked about the senior outreach money extended to Story County Senior Center. Doreen reported that she has requested that we be kept up to date on the outcome and success of the ministry.

F. Closing Prayer – The meeting was closed with a prayer.

Upcoming Events: Michael Londra Annual Concert benefitting Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc.
 Friday, December 13th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
 Ames City Auditorium – Tickets \$30
 New Priest July 14, 2020