

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

February 17, 2020, 7:00PM, St. Louis Room

Present: John Wilson, Kathy Wipf, Mary Ross, Jean Boot, Doreen Berg, Rick Brimeyer, Julie Haas, Lynn Franco, Ron Smith, Mike Brown, Barb Moore, Jarrett Wendt, Charlie Weber, Cynthia Shriver

Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

- A. Call to Order. Doreen
- B. Opening prayer. Ron
- C. Welcome & Introductions

BUSINESS MEETING

A. MINUTES

- 1. January Draft Minutes. Cynthia. The draft minutes were approved by consensus.

- B. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Thank you –Martha’s House of Hope (paper products), Emergency Residence Project (\$1,000), Boys and Girls Club 2019 (\$250), Matthew 25 House 2019 (\$2,450-includes school), Primary Health Care January (\$200), Wings of Refuge 2019 (\$600)(paper products); Obria Medical Clinics 2019 (\$250); MICA (food pantry items), Butterfly Freedom House (total 2019 donations-\$2,150.00)

C. FINANCIALS - Jean

- 1. November and December Financial Report (Final).
- 2. January Financial Report (Tentative)
*Thanksgiving Collection \$1,302. There was some discussion about what to do with the Thanksgiving collection money. Also, we discussed how well donations are keeping up with the budget.
- 3. Senior Outreach. Story County Medical Center. Our donation was divided and placed into accounts of those who never have much money in them.

D. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Pastoral Council. Mike Brown. The columbarium is still under discussion.
- 2. Rice Bowl. Cynthia. Written report available. Rice Bowl distribution and bulletin announcements are all in place. If anyone is interested in volunteering to participate in the SJ Stations of the Cross on March 20 at 5:30 pm please contact Doreen. Doreen will check with Kayla Greiner to see if some of the youth ministry participants would like to help.
- 3. New Pastor Welcome Reception July 18/19. Social Justice coffee/donuts, cleanup after 10:30 mass

E. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Parish Wide Service Project – LET’S ROLL – Rick Brimeyer. Rick presented a slide presentation of photos taken at various times during the weekend of the project. He thanked Mary Sue, the Parish Life Committee and the SJ Committee for their help. The SJ Committee would like to thank Doreen for her leadership role in organizing and completing the variety of responsibilities that the Committee had been assigned.
- 2. Respect Life and Social Justice Formation. Ron. No new information.
- 3. Advocacy/Publicity. Lynn
 - *Quarterly Newsletter. February 15/16. The newsletter was included in the weekend’s bulletin.
 - *Bulletin Boards. The new material will feature Wings of Refuge, Martha’s House of Hope, and CRS Rice Bowl.
- 4. Committee Reports
 - a. Good Samaritan. Lynn
 - * January food pantry donation. 400 pounds. Keith and Linda Huls
 - * January envelopes, cart, food transfer. Keith and Linda Huls
 - * February envelopes, cart, food transfer. Tom and Dorothy Sally
 - * February food pantry donation. 520 pounds

- b. Climate Action Team (CAT) – John. Extensive information is available in the written report.
- c. AMOS – Kathy. Written report available. At the February meeting, immigration, mental health and mental health for the homeless were discussed. It is hoped that ERP will participate in a pilot project involving Anawim to provide permanent supportive housing in Story County. AMOS' job will be to advocate strongly for the project. The Ames Refugee Interfaith Alliance would like a follow-up effort of educating citizens on the current status of refugees and immigrants in the community
- d. Immigrants and Refugee Committee. No new information.
- e. Hunger Collaboration. Doreen. The next meeting is this coming Thursday and they will be getting started on the summer feeding program.
 - *Backpack Buddy Program. STC School has a backpack program during the school year. There was some discussion on using the Thanksgiving collection to start a summer feeding program for STC school children in the backpack program. Doreen had a discussion with Sara Rooney, principal of the school, regarding the specifics of the current program in the school as well as what future programs might look like. An on-site food pantry and vouchers were mentioned. John suggested that a request for items to be used in any potential summer program be put in the bulletin in April/May. Storage of the food items would be an issue.
- f. Food at First. Julie. January average meals per day, 61. For 2019-25,646 total, 71 average. Patty asked if there is any church/organization that might be interested in taking over the Christmas and Thanksgiving community dinners. Also, FAF is looking for a larger space to host the Pass Along Party.
- g. Good Neighbor. Charlie. Written report available.
 - *GNEA Fundraiser "Irish Spring". April 18, 2020, 1-4 at Jethro's. Holy Ground (Father Terry) and Robert Thomas Dance Studio Irish Dancers will perform. Other highlights of the January meeting include: new emergency assistance food guidelines and a May 3 choir concert at Northminster Presbyterian.
- h. Restorative Justice. Barb/Ron. No new information.
 - *Butterfly House. Barb. There are three residents currently in the house and two more individuals are waiting to come. There was a recent graduate.
 - *Matthew 25 House. Ron. No new information.
- i. Emergency Residence Project. Ben. Written report available. ERP is planning a capital campaign. Please see report for more information.
- j. Sanctity of Life. Garland. No new information.
- k. Home for Awhile. Mary. Written report available. There were several good candidates interviewed in January. The apartment was given to a single mother.
- l. Days for Girls. Mary. Written report available. DfG received a \$2,000.00 from Altrusa. The team will help with supplies for the service day of the Philanthropy Committee for the ISU Fashion Show. As of the January meeting, 4,000+ kits were completed by the team.
- m. Additional Concerns. Cynthia requested \$60.00 to purchase Rice Bowl envelopes. It will come from the Committee's expenses line.
 - Lynn reported that there will be two occasions to honor Father Jim. On May 30/31 there will be a celebration to mark the 45 anniversary of his ordination and his retirement reception will be on July 11/12. Lynn said the planning committee will meet March 3.

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