

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

January 25, 2021, 7:00PM, via ZOOM

Present: Jarrett Wendt, Nancy Heideman, Charlie Weber, Doreen Berg, Julie Haas, Mary Ross, Ben Kellen, John Wilson, Cynthia Shriver.

Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

1. Call to Order – Doreen Berg
2. Opening prayer. *Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children*
3. Welcome & Introductions

BUSINESS MEETING

A. MINUTES

December Minutes – Cynthia Shriver. The minutes were approved with the following change. D3e should read “When she cooks, Julie said that she is preparing for 120 meals. The last count she heard was 83. The numbers do fluctuate”.

- B. **CORRESPONDENCE:** – Announcement new Executor Director Angi Bright: Wings of Refuge (paper products and monetary); Thank You: Wings of Refuge; The Bridge Home (Nov./Dec.); Primary Health Care; Matthew 25 House; Martha’s House of Hope (Giving Tree gift cards); AMOS

C. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Pastoral Council – Jarrett. The Council is still discussing the columbarium. More information will be coming regarding the program, *Consecration to St. Joseph*. There will be several Fridays with Mass, prayer, and a brief talk on St. Joseph.
- b. Parish Giving Tree – Gift cards to 57 families, 103 children were distributed.
- c. Alternative Gift Market – The market went well especially since there was no person to person contact and all transactions were made by email or phone. Total Contribution: \$18,055, AGI Projects: \$11,971, Local Projects: \$6,084.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Respect Life and Social Justice Formation. No new Information.
2. Advocacy/Publicity – Lynn will work with Mary Sue to get lector and bulletin information in for Good Samaritan weekends each month.
*Bulletin Boards- Lynn continues to update them as needed. She will do the rolling bulletin board for April, May and June.
3. Committee Reports
 - a. Good Samaritan - Lynn
*December food pantry donation – 376.5 pounds – Keith and Linda Huls
**2020 food pantry donation for the year – 4,791.5 pounds, (\$8,337.21); monthly average - 399.29 pounds (\$694.77)
***May 2009 thru December 2020 – 52,574.8 pounds, (\$85,998.13)
*January food pantry donation – 467 pounds - Gordie Miller
*February cart/sign/food delivery – Tina Richard
 - b. AMOS – Looking for Parish Representative. There is an Ames Cluster Meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 2nd at 5:30pm. Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/98736448987> Meeting ID: 987 3644 8987
The Ames Cluster will be discussing an organizing proposal to build relational power and strengthen our institutions in Story County in 2021. We are encouraged to attend the meeting.
 - c. Immigrants and Refugee Committee – Nancy Heideman. Written reports are available for the Immigrants and Refugee Committee as well as for the Ames Sanctuary Interfaith Committee and the Ames Interfaith Refugee Alliance. Nancy reported that the emergency fund has collected \$214,620.79 and has allocated \$202,520.66 for rent and utilities to 107 different households.
 - d. Hunger Collaboration – Doreen. Written report available. Senior care will be the new focus of the

group. Nancy Carroll, Director of Heartland Senior Services spoke at the January meeting.

e. Food at First –Julie. total meals for December-3,136; daily average-101; total meals for 2020- 28,499; daily average 78 meals.

2020 Food Donations: Walmart/South 62,774 lbs; Sam’s Club 164,364 lbs; Aldi’s 44,676 lbs. HyVee West 52,348 lbs.

f. Good Neighbor – Charlie Weber. Since Covid, assistance and funds have increased. The increased funds were from individual donations, United Way and fund raisers. A new category, *Immigrant Fund*, has been created. A Spanish speaking individual has been hired for eight hours per week to interface with Hispanic clients.

*Annual Fundraiser Replacement for Christmas Market – Possibly April/Good Neighbor month

g. The Bridge Home f/k/a Emergency Residence Project – Ben Kellen. A special meeting to review the capital campaign was held. The results were positive. The conclusion was that The Bridge Home needs to work on becoming more well-known especially in outlying areas. It services all of Story County.

h. Sanctity of Life – No new information.

i. Climate Action Team (CAT) – John Wilson. Written report available. The team continues to meet as an interest group to increase general awareness in the community.

j. Jail Ministry- Written reflections on Sunday readings are being done for jail inmates.

*Butterfly House – There is one person at the House.

*Matthew 25 House – No new information.

k. Home for Awhile – Mary Ross. Written report available. Eviction proceedings have been started for individuals who do not comply with agreements they made with the agency.

l. Days for Girls – Mary Ross. Written report available. The Ames sewing team has completed 5,045 hygiene kits since it started in April, 2015. Kits will now be sent to places other than South Africa.

E. FINANCIALS – Jean.

Jean reported that generous donations in December and January have brought us closer to being on budget. **By consensus, it was agreed that \$225 be given to the Oscar Romero House and \$225 to Unbound.** The funds will come from the Outreach line in the budget.

a. October Financial Report (Final). Reviewed.

b. October Financial Report (Final). Reviewed.

c. December Financial Report (Tentative). Reviewed.

d. Request for Support: Center for Creative Justice (Will consider in the next budget).

F. Additional Concerns. None.

G. Closing Prayer – A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic