

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

July 19, 2021, 7:00PM, in person

Present: Deacon Ron Smith, Julie Haas, John Wilson, Jean Boot, Doreen Berg, Mary Ross, Jarrett Wendt, Cynthia Shriver, Renee Smith
Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

1. Call to Order – Doreen called the meeting to order.
2. Opening prayer – Deacon Ron led the opening prayer.
3. Welcome & Introductions The committee welcomed Renee Smith.

BUSINESS MEETING

A. MINUTES

- a. June Draft Minutes – Cynthia Shriver. **Approved by consensus.**

B. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Thank you: Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc. \$355.10/dunk tank proceeds,

C. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Pastoral Council –No new information.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Advocacy/Publicity – Lynn Franco.

*~~May~~ newsletter

*Bulletin Boards. We anticipate having information regarding the month's featured charity for Good Samaritan Weekend posted on the bulletin board at least a week before the actual event.

3. Committee Reports

- a. Good Samaritan - Lynn

*June food pantry donation – 557.5 pounds – Keith and Linda Huls

*June cart/sign/food delivery – Keith and Linda Huls

*July cart/sign/envelopes/food delivery – Tom Sally

- b. AMOS – Sara Rooney. Ames Move Forward Campaign/Delegate Assembly June 27. Doreen attended the meeting. The organization does not have a Board of Directors so the delegate assembly sets the year's agenda and their budget. Each delegate has one vote. AMOS is hiring another person.

A list of members and the 2021-22 budget is in the Google folder.

- c. Immigrants and Refuge Committee – Nancy Heideman. Written reports available. AIRA- United Way is proposing an immigration coalition to coordinate the activities of local organizations.

- d. Hunger Collaboration – Doreen. Written report available.

- e. Food at First –Julie (June 2606 meals/87 meals per day average). FAF is in the process of remodeling the kitchen and the meal serving area.

- f. Good Neighbor – Charlie Weber. They are reopening in-person for two days per week.

- g. The Bridge Home – Ben Kellen. No new information. Ben is resigning as board member but will stay on until a replacement can be found.

- h. Sanctity of Life – Garland Dahlke. Written report available.

- i. Climate Action Team (CAT) – John Wilson. Written report available. The team continues to meet monthly focusing on the climate action plan for the city. Applications to serve on the Climate Action Committee are on the city's website.

* Celebration of Life – October 3, 2021, 1:00 p.m. Written report available. To date, the participating faith groups are STC, STA, and UCC. The format will be similar to last year.

- j. Jail Ministry. They are still meeting virtually. Reflections on the Sunday readings will continue and be available to everyone.
 - *Butterfly House – Barb Moore. Barb is back on the Board. There are currently two residents.
 - *Matthew 25 House – Deacon Ron. No new information.
- k. Home for Awhile – Mary Ross. Written report available.
- l. Days for Girls – Mary Ross. Written report available. The service project for the July 7 Wednesday Night Summer Activities series was very popular. Thanks to Jean Boot, Barb Dalhoff, and Rheon Wolske for assisting Mary.
- m. Saving Suds Laundry Project – Mary Ross. The group is happy to have more volunteers to work on the existing Thursday activities as well as to start a new group to add to the calendar. Currently, two Thursdays of the month are covered.
- n. Make Their Hearts Smile (Elderly/Disabled Outreach) – Julie Haas (Will launch in the Fall). Preparations are on-going.
- o. Ames Ecumenical Housing. Dick McCoy is no longer a board member. A replacement is needed.

E. FINANCIALS

- a. May Financial Report (Final) – Jean Boot. Reviewed.
- b. June Financial Report (Tentative) - Jean Boot. Reviewed.
- c. Good Samaritan Black Bag Program Updates. Jarrett Wendt. There was much discussion on the mechanics of the new procedure. In July, agencies we support will receive a check for our usual monthly donation (2019-2020) and a letter explaining the new procedure. They will be invited to participate on their assigned Good Samaritan weekends by providing information for displays, answering questions, etc. This month's collection for Individual Assistance netted \$2,500 in cash. We will need to wait until the end of the month to get a total since information on bank transfers is not known until then. Our target amounts for each agency are what we allocated to them in the 2019-2020 budget. If donations fall short, we be able to make up the difference with the money the Church is tithing. Deacon Ron and Jarrett set up the display and it was well received. It will be crucial that each agency be given enough time to prepare its display. There will be well publicized calendars for the entire year available to both parishioners and agencies. The bulletin will be used to not only alert parishioners to the month's designated agency/agencies but also to inform them of the amount collected for last month's agency/agencies. If any organization relies on our monthly donation and its weekend is not until late in the fiscal year, we will be able to support them monthly until its weekend comes. We need to know what Father Don will allow us to do with lector announcements.

F. Social Justice Visioning.

Diocesan guidelines for the functioning of social justice committees were distributed as well as our local 2016 action plan and a 2021 report to Father Don outlining the committee's purpose and activities. A lengthy discussion followed. To allow the committee time to focus on getting more parishioners actively involved in social justice, several ideas, such as having committee reports every three to six months (instead of every month), were discussed. We were asked to read the material, think about it and be prepared to share ideas at the next meeting.

G. Additional Concerns.

Doreen will pass on the information she received about Crop Walk to the school. We can decide at the next meeting whether we want to support it financially.

Deacon Ron stated that money to help with car repairs is in very short supply.

If anyone has trouble uploading reports to the Goggle Folder, email them to Doreen.

H. Closing Prayer. The meeting was adjourned with a prayer.