

# Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

June 21, 2021, 7:00PM, in person

1. Call to Order – Doreen Berg
2. Opening prayer – Deacon Ron
3. Welcome & Introductions

## BUSINESS MEETING

### A. MINUTES

- a. May Draft Minutes – Cynthia Shriver. The May minutes were approved by consensus.

- B. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Thank you: Catholic Charities (May/June), The Bridge Home (April/May), Food at First (March/April/May)

### C. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Pastoral Council – Jarrett. There is a new architect for the columbarium. Wednesday Masses are being held at 6:30 PM followed by Family Night activities. The dunk tank donations that will be collected on Wednesday night following Mass will be donated to GNEA. The Council is still discussing a new ceiling, pews, carpet, sound system etc. Handicap doors will be put on some of the entrances to restrooms. A photo collage of past and present STC's deacons is being prepared. John Wilson will get more information on a code for architects related to good environmental practices including climate change.

### D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Respect Life and Social Justice formation – Ron. No new information.

\*Promoting Catholic Teaching in the Parish – Ron stated that we know just talking about the topic is not fruitful. A different approach is needed.

2. Advocacy/Publicity – Lynn Franco. Written report available. Lynn continues to update the bulletin board as needed.

\*May newsletter

\*Bulletin Boards

3. Committee Reports

- a. Good Samaritan – Lynn. Written report available.

\*May food pantry donation – 281.5 pounds – Tina Richards

\*May cart/sign/food delivery – Tina Richards

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

- b. AMOS – Ames Move Forward Campaign/Delegate Assembly June 27. The time for local discussions in the Move Forward Campaign has been extended. Presently, mental health, elder care, and the pandemic have been identified as areas of need/interest. The June 27 delegate meeting will be held from 3 to 4:30 pm in Ankeny. Doreen will attend. Anyone interested in attending please contact Doreen.

- c. Immigrants and Refugee Committee – Nancy Heideman. Written report available. There will be a community id drive in the fall at STC. The lady and son from Honduras seeking asylum are now here.

- d. Hunger Collaboration – Doreen. HIRTA has initiated a grocery pick-up process. Numbers at the local food pantries are still down.

- e. Food at First – Julie (May 2935 meals/95 meals per day average). No new information. Chefs are still needed.

- f. Good Neighbor – Charlie Weber. Meeting minutes and assistance reports are available.

- g. The Bridge Home f/k/a Emergency Residence Project – Ben Kellen. No new information.

- h. Sanctity of Life – Garland Dahlke. No new information.

- i. Climate Action Team (CAT) – John Wilson. No new information.

\* Celebration of Life – Fall 2021. The Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, October 3.

Committee members from STC and STA have been identified. UCC is also interested in being part of the celebration. The canopies that St. Cecilia has can be used by any church group. Father will be asked to confirm this.

- j. Jail Ministry. It is possible that the jail ministry may not go back to person-to-person meetings. The jail administration's proposal on this is in the development stage.
  - \*Butterfly House – Barb Moore. Currently, there is one resident.
  - \*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. One hundred and forty hygiene kits have been sent to Central Africa Republic.
- m. Saving Suds Laundry Project – Mary Ross. The organization is trying to get more groups involved. If anyone wants to help with the existing groups, they would be welcomed.
- n. Make Their Hearts Smile (Elderly/Disabled Outreach) – Julie Haas (will launch in the Fall)
- o. Ames Ecumenical Housing – We need to find a replacement for Dick McCoy who is stepping down as a board member. Doreen will get more information on what is involved. If you know someone you think may be interested, please contact Doreen.

## **E. FINANCIALS**

- a. April Financial Report (Final) – Jean Boot. Reviewed.
- b. May Financial Report (Tentative) – Jean Boot. Reviewed. Even with lower than projected donations for May and June, we should be able to meet our financial obligations for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. To do this, we may need to draw on our two-month reserves. Starting July 1, 2021 we will have a new financial system.
- c. AMOS letter of commitment. The committee has committed \$1,000 for AMOS. AMOS has suggested amounts for member organizations to donate, \$500-\$15,000.
- d. Good Samaritan Black Bag Program Updates – Jarrett Wendt. The proposal for changing the Good Samaritan collection was reviewed in detail. Please see the written proposal. It was suggested that at the upcoming July meeting we should discuss ideas for promoting the agencies that will be featured each month. Planning for a particular month should probably begin two months before the actual event. In July, Doreen will send out letters to all of the agencies we support explaining what we are doing and asking for their help in setting up displays and promotional materials in the Narthex on their assigned weekends. For July only, agencies will receive what they have historically been given. It was suggested that Home for Awhile be given their historic monthly amount in August, September and October since they operate on a very tight budget. Other discussions included whether we should increase our support for ACCESS, Obria, and Catholic Worker House, should we include the Mustard Farm among the agencies we support, and how much do we want to financially support Saving Suds. No formal decisions were made.

- F. **Additional Concerns.** 1. Since climate change is a part of social justice, the question was raised what the committee can do to promote it as a goal of our parish. The archdiocesan guidelines for SJ committees will be consulted. A SJ subcommittee on climate change was suggested. The goals of the committee would first need to be identified. Father Don would be consulted. Another suggestion was to use the bulletin as a vehicle for educating parishioners on ways they, as individuals, can help ease destructive changes to the environment. The SJ committee may want to increase its focus on climate change as part of their goals. Doreen will check on the status of the parish's visioning process. 2. Jarrett has set up a STCSJ google folder. Members will be able to deposit their monthly reports by-passing Doreen and allowing everyone to access the reports easily and quickly.

- G **Closing Prayer - Deacon Ron.** The meeting was adjourned with the prayer, "Prayer for the Nation".