

MINUTES FOR St. ANDREW'S CONFERENCE MEETING

Date: 09/14/2020

Call to Order/Opening Prayer: Father Greg () Diane (X) Other () Time: 5:00 pm

Spiritual Reading: Fr. Greg () Margaret (X) Other ()

Who are you: Glenn provided an overview of his life and times.

Diane is next in line but will not be at the meeting next week.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: (X) Read/Approved; Approved with Changes ()

Attendance: Total Active Members (31); LOA (2) Present (24) Absent (7) Quorum (16)

MEMBERS		MEMBERS		MEMBERS		TRAINING	
Al	X	Gloria	X	Michaela	X	Maria	X
Ann F.	X	Hilary	A	Mike F.	X		
Ann L.	X	Janet	X	Norm	X		
Barbara	LOA	Jerry	X	Pauline	X		
Bryant	LOA	JoAnn	A	Sandra	A		
Dennis	X	Kathy	X	Scotty	X		
Diane	X	Margaret	X	Toni	X		
Dotti	X	Marge	A	Yolanda	X		
Estela	A	Martha G.	X				
Francisca	X	Mary Ellen	X	Father Greg *	A		
George	X	Mary	A	Stan *	A		
Gini	X	Michael C	X				
Glenn	X						

Absent plus 30 days: *Stan and Father Greg - Not included in Quorum

Unfinished Business:

1. Recognition and kudos to Stan, Blanca and Shelly for the many quiet things to support our conference. Be sure to thank them when you have an opportunity. (For example, Stan has been maintaining the cooling/heating units at the store for many years! Thank you Stan.)
2. Also Dennis, always ready to step up to address repairs to the buildings. He recently completed more repairs on the pipes for the coolers on the roof of the thrift store. Thank you, Dennis.

New Business:

1. Working with Salvation Army. Diane and Mary Ellen met recently with the new Lieutenants, Ty and Heather Baze. They are open and eager to the concept of our organizations working in concert and complementing each other's efforts.
 - a. The current and obvious case in point is rental assistance. The Army can only do COVID related cases. However they do not appear to have a cap on their assistance. Therefore if a case has solid documentation of the effect of the Virus on the friend's ability to pay rent, they should be referred to the Salvation Army for assistance. There is a list at the Conference of required documents to be

provided when applying.

- b. They are addressing an identified need in the community of Palominas by providing the foodstuffs left from the USDA commodity distribution. They are brought to Palominas for pickup by folks in need. In the process, poverty in the area became apparent, so they began bringing clothing items also, which have been enthusiastically received. Diane suggested the Thrift Store may be able to aid in that project.
- c. They are considering opening a thrift store. This would be a local endeavor, unlike the previous store which was run out of Tucson. The Lieutenants would like to establish a youth center on the property where the former Center was located and the idea is for the proceeds from a thrift store to support it. Lots of due diligence yet to be done.

2. Upcoming events

- a. Food bank meeting: 9/17 – Madonna Hall
- b. Finance meeting: 9/18 – Madonna Hall, room 3, after Mass
- c. Feast of Saint Vincent de Paul. – Sunday, 9/27 – Please wear your St Vincent de Paul shirts.
- d. Board meeting: 9/29

3. Another new organization – location Whetstone. They will be collecting items for a thrift store.



4. The Parish report had been distributed to members by Email. Diane called for questions but none were voiced. She noted that since there will be no Ministry Fair this year, the plan is to provide the information via a “Bulletin Ministry Fair,” i.e. information on each ministry will be provided in the bulletin piecemeal. Mary Ann Hockstad advised that since the report was too lengthy to publish in the bulletin, so she will select highlights. However, she also offered to create an informational pamphlet covering all the information.

On the subject of outreach, Diane advised that Pauline had created an excellent business card describing the Vincentian mission, which can be handed out. Diane asked that Blanca be asked to order a supply to be paid for by the Conference. Pauline will work on getting a discount.

5. Grant funds: Scotty is working on grants and one large one in particular.

Diane has started the process to secure another grant from the Legacy Foundation. The Special Case Committee has been advised to prioritize the Wick funds and when monies are gone we can re-apply to the AZ community foundation.

United Way funds: on September 1 there was \$10,000 available for rental assistance and by the end of the week, \$2,000 had already been spent. This prompted questions about the rate the money is being spent, the criteria and perhaps reducing the amount available

to each friend. It was pointed out that in many cases landlords will not accept partial payment of rents owed and also participation from other organizations should stretch the money. Ann Lund pointed out the funds were provided to the Conference to help people. She suggested we should pray about it and refer the matter to the Board for consideration. Diane mentioned that not every single request had been fulfilled.

Diane asked that Vincentians submit their thoughts to Ann Lund, as she is a member of the SC Committee and a Board member.

Dottie noted that SSVEC is requiring that all arrears be paid as of October 1st.

Kathy Cammack mentioned that in the past SSVEC has allowed customers to establish a payment plan. However, if one payment is missed service is terminated immediately.

6. One more person is needed on Thursday from 12-2 pm, and Ann Lee offered to cover.

Thank you, Ann. So appreciate your filling in when help is short.

7. Toiletries – Pauline:

a. We have three cases of TP. Ask Stan if the supply gets low.

b. There are plenty of toothbrushes in the smaller closet in the stacked brown boxes

c. There are 720 tubes of toothpaste in the white box on the floor of the supply area.

d. The bags in the shopping cart are for smaller family requests. For families of four or more, please make a bag with two rolls of TP, the larger shampoo and large tube of toothpaste (which have been graciously donated).

e. When someone requests toiletries bring it to the FB and they will place it with the food box.

f. Two cases of feminine products are expected from the DOLLAR TREE. Mary Ellen will pick up.

8. Home Visits: Pauline advised she had accompanied a friend to one of the apartment complexes in an effort to mitigate late fees of \$15/day. No success, however efforts are being made to address the issue at the higher management level. (Friend is up to \$1,500 in rent and late fees.)

Mary Ellen reported she had called Teresa Bly who was happy to be thought of.

Pauline related a story about a friend who had arrived from Tennessee and needed tires. He received caring efforts from Conference members, but managed to get tires on his own. He also has been hired by the Thrift Store. He appeared at the Conference again on Monday for other help. Needs have been met.

9. Special cases: NA

10. Vincentian Reports on difficult or touching cases:

11. Conference Members Sick or in Distress / Prayers for others:

Barbara was hospitalized recently, home now.

12. Vincentian Schedule: Will be emailed separately

13. For the good of the order: Kathy reported that the Rosary held at the Police Department was well attended and

Closing Prayer: Fr. Greg () Diane (X) Other ()

Adjournment: 6:30 p.m.

Recorder: Mary (Secretary) () Other - (X) Mary Ellen