

MINUTES FOR ST. ANDREW'S CONFERENCE MEETING

Date: 22 January 2024

Call to Order/Opening Prayer: Father Greg

Time: 5:05

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

Motion by: Ann L Seconded by: Marge

Attendance: Total Active Members (36) LOA (3) Present (21) Absent (12) Quorum (17)

MEMBERS		MEMBERS		MEMBERS		Associate Member	
Al	X	Janet	X	Pauline	X	Maria	
Ann F.	X	Jerry	X	Sandra	X	Barbara S	
Ann L.	X	JoAnn	LOA	Scotty	X	Ann Fellrath	
Colleen	A	Jose	A	Stephen	A	Michaela	
Dennis	X	Kathy	X	Toni	A		
Diane	X	Larry	A	Yolanda	A		
Dotti	X	Margaret	A			Visitors	
Estela	A	Marianne	A				
Francisca	X	Marge	X				
George	LOA	Martha G	LOA				
Gini	X	Mary Ellen	X				
Glenn	X	Mary	A			Training	
Gloria	A	Michael C	X	Father Greg *	X		
Hilary	X	Norm	X	Stan *	A		
Ilona	A	Pat	X				

*Stan and Father Greg - Not included in Quorum

Upcoming Events:

- Tuesday, 23 January 2024: St. Vincent Memorial Mass, 9:00 AM
- Friday, 26 January 2024: Service for Linc Schneider; Rosary at 10:00 AM and Mass at 10:30 AM.

Old Business:

- Epiphany Party was great. We had a great get together.

NEW Business:

1. DES has moved to Oscar Yrun as of today, 22 January 2024.
2. Spiritual Retreat at OLM, Saturday, 27 January 2024, at 9:00 AM, with Maury. If anyone would like to attend, please let me know, and I will contact Ann Lee this evening to add your name. Retreat starts at 9:00 AM with Mass and runs until after lunch.
3. Ozanam Training should be repeated every 5 years. Anyone can sign up. The next training is 3 February 2024 at St. Francis De Sales in Tucson. Let Pauline know if you would like to attend.
4. If our friend, Heather Markle comes in, contact Pauline. Pauline will be the only one working with her to eliminate any miscommunication.
5. Please read our friends' files. If you add comments, please make sure to put your name at the end of the comments in case another Vincentian has to contact you. Remember, we do have guidelines and we are trying our best to stick to them.

6. Lee Zeldin Dakota Project Update: Pauline submitted the information requested by the Project and received a call from their representative. They are going to send clothing for 300 children, 100 men and 100 women.
7. Kathy Riebock is going to do a PB&J fundraiser for SVDP during May. Any proceeds from the fundraiser will be given to SVDP.
8. Grateful Goods is a community vendor market usually held mid-month. The last market was held 12 and 13 January 2024 at 112 6th Street, Suite A. Signup for emails is: www.gratefulgoods.com.
9. Safeway Store.
 - a. Pauline received a call from Nancy, Safeway representative in Phoenix, who wanted to know about our SVDP conference and how Safeway was supporting us. Nancy said that the Safeway store in Sierra Vista is the most profitable in 5 states.
 - b. She told Pauline that she was sending information to us to apply for a \$20,000 grant and that she would be the sponsor (Scotty is already working on the grant).
 - c. Additionally, Nancy said she wanted to come down and do a video of the Food Bank. On Thursday, 18 January 2024, a video crew showed up at the Food Bank and videoed Stan and 18 volunteers preparing food boxes and doing a mock delivery to a friend. The video is being sent to the CEO in Dallas.
 - d. Nancy then invited Pauline to attend an employee's luncheon at Safeway. Gloriana, the local Safeway manager, asked Pauline to speak about SVDP and what we provide.
 - e. Safeway said they will have an additional gift card distribution to our conference.
 - f. According to the Diocesan representative in Phoenix, John Junkers, we have the best conference in the state.
 - g. Father Greg, Pauline, Stan and the Food Bank did an amazing job.
10. Good Shepherd Grant starts 1 February 2024. The amount for the next 7 months is \$2,850 per month. Per our guidelines, \$300 will be used for rent: \$200 from Good Shepherd and \$100 from our fund; \$150 will be used for utilities: \$75 from Good Shepherd and \$75 from our utilities fund. We can combine that with Fernandez, Single Moms, and/or help from St. Andrews for up to \$450, if the situation arises. Use discretion when determining the need.
11. Sandra was at Walmart buying sweatshirts for the backpacks. While standing in line, she and the lady behind her started talking. The woman asked what the sweatshirts were for. Sandra explained to her that she was a Vincentian and that the shirts were for backpacks for the homeless. Because of Sandra's explanations, the woman paid for the sweatshirts.
12. Sandra attended a service at Faith Presbyterian where they blessed the backpacks. We were given 74 backpacks with toiletries and can openers.
13. Ann Lund mentioned that she works different days and finds it nice to work with different Vincentians; maybe others might want to try doing it too.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Due: 5 February 2024

- A:** Food Bank Report:
- B:** Thrift Store Report
- C:** Finance Report:
- D:** The Poor Box Report:

Vincentian Reports on difficult or touching cases:

1. Pauline had a case where a friend's rent was \$5,000. The friend applied to AZ.gov for rental assistance and in 3 weeks, AZ.gov paid \$4,100. The couple's friend has a house that they will be moving into the end of January.
2. Ann Lund had a mother and daughter come in looking for help with a hotel. The family, father, mother and 3 kids, are currently in a hotel which is costing them \$100 a night. We were able to help with one night. They are checking with GNA on a daily basis.

Home visits: None

Special cases: Amount available \$826.66

For the Good of the Order: From Pauline:

If we are going to move from observation to involvement, it will mean that we have to identify with, and actually, be with those who are broken. St. Mother Teresa sees opportunities with the eyes of Jesus and God involved with the problem as she would have seen the opportunity. This is unusual, because the condition we come out of is the condition we return to, but in the lives of others. In the case of St. Mother Teresa, and those who follow her lead, it becomes ironic that our identification, with Jesus brings us back into a relationship with sinners, the poor, the needy, and those who are in what Mother Teresa called hideous disguises, is in the hideous disguises, that Jesus is present to us.

If you can't be with the poor, the disenfranchised, and the hideous ones, then you will be out on being with Jesus because Jesus comes to us in the poor. So, if you leave Jesus out of the equation, if you leave Jesus out when meeting with people, then, yes, it's just you and the hideous ones; they have nothing to give you, so it's easy to write them off. But, if Jesus is in the hideous disguise, then your love for Jesus trump's your fear of the observers around you.

Spiritual Reading: None

Conference Members Sick or in Distress: For the Schneider Family, Deacon George and Martha.

Prayers for others: Will be emailed separately

Vincentian Schedule: Will be emailed separately.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- Food Bank Meeting:
- Finance Meeting: 25 January 2024, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall
- Thrift Store Meeting:
- Board Meeting:

Closing Prayer: Ann Lund

Adjourned: 6:00 PM

Recorder: Pat