

# MINUTES FOR ST. ANDREW'S CONFERENCE MEETING

Date: 20 May 2024

**Call to Order/Opening Prayer:** Pauline

**Time:** 5:00 PM

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

Motion by: Ann Lund    Seconded by: Larry

**Attendance: Total Active Members (36)   LOA (4)   Present (20)   Absent (12)   Quorum (17)**

<b>MEMBERS</b>		<b>MEMBERS</b>		<b>MEMBERS</b>		<b>Associate Member</b>	
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	X	Jose	A	Stephen	X	Michaela	
Dennis	A	Kathy	A	Toni	A		
Diane	X	Larry	X	Yolanda	A		
Dotti	A	Margaret	X			<b>Visitors</b>	
Estela	A	Marianne	LOA			Ann Lee/OLM	X
Francisca	A	Marge	X				
George	LOA	Martha G	LOA				
Gini	X	Mary Ellen	A				
Glenn	X	Mary	X			<b>Training</b>	
Gloria	A	Michael C	A	Father Greg *	A	Mechelle Shea	X
Hilary	X	Norm	A	Stan *	A	Tom Fredericks	X
Ilona	X	Pat	X				

\*Stan and Father Greg - Not included in Quorum

Gini leaves next week for New York and will be gone all summer.

**Current Events:** Thank you, Scotty, for getting a \$2,500 grant for computer assistance and thank you, Al, for all the computer work you've done for the conference.

**Upcoming Events:**

- 25 May 2024: Grateful Goods, 611 6<sup>th</sup> Street, will be open from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. A portion of this month's proceeds is being donated to SVDP. A table is set up for SVDP, so if anyone is available to attend, please do so.

- 27 May 2024: The Conference and the Thrift Store will be closed on Memorial Day, 27 May 2024. Please remember those who died for this great country.

**Old Business:**

1. The USPS Food Drive: Approximately 21,000 pounds of food was collected. We had many volunteers from the food bank and their family members, Life teen teens, LDS members plus members of Hoops House.
2. The pot luck last week was good.

## **NEW Business:**

1. WANTED: District President. Ann Lee is stepping down in September. Pauline has a list of responsibilities if anyone is interested.
2. The Ozanam training was outstanding. We had 20 participants. What stuck out from the training? Spirituality increases within the conference, with our friends as well as implementing more home visits. Modeling St. Vincent De Paul, Fredric Ozanam, and Rosalie Rendu has proven to be essential when doing home visits. Quality not quantity was also talked about. Maury also stated that if a family refuses a home visit, they should not receive any further help from SVDP. Both Mechelle and Tom attended the training and soon will be inducted as Vincentians.
3. When making a payment for a friend using one of SVDP's charge cards, never make the payment in the friend's presence and never use the friend's phone.
4. A friend who has a handicapped child with autism needs a live-in person. If you know someone or a friend comes in that might fit the bill, please contact Michelle Davis, 414-938-9880 with the name and phone number of that person.
5. The Thrift Store has 2 positions available – a part-time driver and a full-time cashier. The Thrift Store is also looking for Vincentian volunteers. If you go in to volunteer, please use the front door and let them know when you leave.
6. There is a room for rent in a family house for \$500 a month plus some utilities. The room has its own bathroom, new painting, new carpet and new ceiling fan fixture. A person with a monthly income is preferred; no smoking inside house or bedroom. Room will be available in July. The contact number is 424-240-2269. We should vet any friend for good character before informing them about the room. The homeowner will make the final decision.
7. The Silver Rose prayer service will be held at St. Andrew's on 28 May at 6:00 PM. This is a National pilgrimage stop on the way from Canada to Mexico to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe.
8. The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage has started from 4 different locations throughout the United States and all routes will lead to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis on 16 July 2024.
9. Pauline got an estimate from Mountain View HVAC for 2 of the 4 coolers at the Thrift Store which will be paid from by our anonymous donor. Pauline asked if they would give us a discount and they lowered the price by \$500.
10. School will be out this week. If a family needs food more than once a month, please give it to them. Also, please make sure to put the ages of the children on the slip
11. Diane thanked the members of the Ad Hoc Committee for their work on updating the guidelines. She said the final guidelines should be out by mid-June and that information will be discussed 2 weeks prior to implementing. A summary of the guidelines follows:
  - a. The purpose of the committee is to identify problems and try to fix them with standardized guidelines. The new guidelines will try to make rules more standardized based for 12 rolling months (i.e. – Jan-Jan; May-May, etc.). The amount and funds used for payments should be highlighted in the friend's file.
  - b. How do we assist friends who have multiple visits and how often do we help them.
  - c. We need to ensure that case file notes clearly explain what was done for the friend.
  - d. Currently, 80% of money is used for rent and utilities; 11% for the homeless; and 9% for everything else.
  - e. There will be 7 files – 4 major ones – rent, utilities, homeless and other; 3 other files – Fernandez, single moms and St. Andrews.
  - f. The Vincentian will not have to decide what funding sources rent will come from if another funding source is used in addition with the rent funds. As an example, if we pay \$300 rent for a friend, we currently take \$200 from Good Shepherd fund and \$100 from SVDP fund and we mark both files. Under the new guidelines, we would annotate the rent file for \$300 and Blanca and Glen will work where the money came from.
  - g. Special Cases will still be used; however, the funds for the special case will come from whatever funding source you need, i.e. money for rent from the rent fund. A special case form will be

required when requesting a special case.

h. The "Other" fund will be used for items other than rent and utilities. It is a stand-alone fund and not an add-on fund.

i. Only one additional fund will be used to supplement rent/utilities.

j. We shouldn't help with taxes, mortgages, sewer and trash (unless it is part of the water bill), deposits of any kind, automobile loans and automobile insurance.

k. The rules are meant to keep it simple and make it easy.

l. If a homeless friend has a DNR at the first place that's called, no other calls should be made.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS: 3 June 2024**

**A:** Food Bank Report:

**B:** Thrift Store Report:

**C:** Finance Report:

**D:** The Poor Box Report:

### **Vincentian Reports on difficult or touching cases:**

- On Friday, a call came in from a friend who broke his toilet and wanted us to give him a voucher to Lowe's or Home Depot for a new one. After much discussion and conversation among the Vincentians, we were unable to help him. He called back and said that Lowe's has a charity program and if we could write up a letter on our letterhead and take it to them, they should be able to help. Pat wrote the letter, delivered the letter to Lowe's and notified the friend that it was delivered.

- Mary had a friend come in on Monday, who didn't want to provide information and who became very agitated. Mary gave her the number for DES.

- Estela also had an aggressive friend come in last Tuesday; to temper the situation, Estela left the room, took a deep breath and told the person we could not help them.

**Home visits:** A home visit is scheduled with Taniel for 24 May 24 at 2:00 PM. We need to start doing more home visits.

**Special cases:** Amount available:

**For the Good of the Order:** A friend came in asking for funds to pay for her son's graduation cap and gown. The Vincentians working that day paid for the cap and gown.

**Spiritual Reading:** Margaret

**Conference Members Sick or in Distress:** Deacon George and Martha, Deacon Mike and Helen, Ruby and Norm, Kathy and Mike.

**Prayers for others:** Will be emailed separately

**Vincentian Schedule:** Will be emailed separately.

## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

- Food Bank Meeting:
- Finance Meeting:

- Thrift Store Meeting:
- Ad Hoc Meeting:
- Board Meeting: 28 May 2024, 10:00 AM, Madonna Hall

**Closing Prayer:** Ann Lund

**Adjourned:** 6:15 PM

**Recorder:** Pat