

MINUTES FOR ST. ANDREW'S CONFERENCE MEETING

Date: 5 August 2024

Call to Order/Opening Prayer: Pauline **Time:** 5:05 PM

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

Motion by: Glenn Seconded by: Diane

Attendance: Total Active Members (32) LOA (0) Present (18) Absent (14) Quorum (15)

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

*Stan and Father Greg - Not included in Quorum

Current Events: No Vincentian biography was done tonight. Ann Faust will give her biography on 19 August 2024.

Upcoming Events:

1. Birthdays: Hillary, 7 August; Ann Lund, 9 August; Larry, 17 August, and JoAnn, 26 August
2. 28 September 2024: Mass and Walk for the Poor; Sierra Vista SVDP will celebrate 50 years of helping the poor.
3. 12 August 2024: There will be no fellowship meeting on 12 August 2024 so that Vincentians can tune in to the Zoom meeting on Prop 139 (see For the Good of the Order below).

Old Business:

1. The district 5 meeting was great. There were about 45 attendees. As of 1 October 2024, Nancy Ames will be the new district president.
2. Five-year service pins were given to Toni, Norm and Dennis. We have service pins for Estela and Gloria.

NEW Business:

1. Funding.

a. We are doing great with the guidelines. The funding guidelines are our guardrails.

At this point in time, we have an estimated profit of \$65,000 from last year.

b. Because we have the money, for the next two months, we are eliminating category ceilings while maintaining all current guidelines. Exceptions to this would be the Fernandez Fund and the Single Moms Fund. The forms will not indicate an amount for the day/month nor will there be any balances (subtraction of funds).

c. We have money to cover operating expenses for about 3 months. As a non-profit, we want to make sure that we don't have too much money on hand.

d. Scotty said that as a non-profit, if we have an objective for the money, it is okay to build-up the funds.

2. Toiletries are for emergencies. All friends know they can get them if they ask. Thank you for the donated detergent. Please be more reserved with the toiletries.

3. The new doors were installed at the thrift store on Friday.

4. The air filter in the waiting room is operational.

5. Through the Arizona Community Foundation, we received a donation of \$2,130 from a family trust.

6. SEACAP will be closed the last two weeks of the month due to conference meetings.

7. When a friend comes in and they are very late with the rent and the balance is high, when we call the office, we should ask the office (in a nice manner) if they could remind the friend of the amount that's due. Managers need to take more responsibility when dealing with their tenants.

8. It was recommended that a notice be put in the church bulletin the week before the SVDP collection takes place on the first weekend of the month.

9. On 27 September 2024, SVDP will celebrate 50 years of operating in Sierra Vista. We have several ideas on how to celebrate.

a. We will be serving coffee and donuts on Sunday, 29 September 2024 after all Masses.

b. Stan suggested that a display of cases of shrink-wrapped food showing what we distribute in a day (approximately 40 families) in the church foyer.

c. Some ideas from the store - items that the store sells; spin the wheel for 50 cents or 50% off items.

d. Ideas for the conference: a statistic poster showing the number of Vincentians, number families we serve in a month; maybe this information should be in the church bulletin on monthly basis.

e. What are some ideas for after the 5:00 PM Masses on Saturday and Sunday?

10. Did you know what happens if a president is not voted into a conference? The entire conference shuts down. Pauline would like to assign a nominating committee so that that doesn't happen to us.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Due 5 August 2024

A: Food Bank Report:

B: Thrift Store Report: \$35,445.56 for the month; daily average: \$1,363.29 for 26 days

C: Finance Report:

D: The Poor Box Report: \$188.08

Vincentian Reports on difficult or touching cases:

1. When Pauline's friends' daughter was pregnant, the doctor saw something on the ultrasound and recommended that she have an abortion. The baby was born and is a healthy teenager.

2. Diane had a friend who had been living in Knight's Inn and was undergoing wound care treatment. However, she stopped getting treatment and has moved to Bisbee.

3. Toni had a friend come in today who had been dropped off by the Police at GNA. She had been to

the hospital. GNA sent her to us to try and help her get back to Arkansas. She claimed she was abused and was sex-trafficked. Toni put her up at Knight's Inn until Wednesday when she'll be back to get a bus ticket to get to Arkansas. Slicks will take her to Benson to catch the bus.

Home visits: Toni and Francisca did a home visit on Friday. The friend was called beforehand to let him know that they were coming and he was told that his children needed to be there. When they arrived, he was the only one home and made excuses why his children weren't there. They both felt that he was not telling the truth about a lot of things. He also said that when he goes to the store, he feels like he's not being treated fairly. Toni said she would meet him at the store on Monday but he didn't show up. The food he picked up on Wednesday, was still sitting in the boxes on the table on Friday. Not sure what else we can do.

Special cases:

For the Good of the Order: Diane brought the following information to our attention on Prop 139:

A couple of weeks ago, Ilona told us about a grass roots organization called "It Goes too Far". Prop 139 overturns current common-sense regulations in AZ abortion law, allowing unrestricted, unregulated abortion on demand. It provides for painful, late term abortions. No longer would a medical doctor be required to perform or provide the abortion. It makes safety precautions unenforceable, even when they protect women from complications, such as a perforated uterus, sepsis and hemorrhaging.

My friends, we cannot just sit by and do nothing. ***Silence connotes consent!!!*** We must get educated on this, speak up, and help others understand this terrible proposition.

"It Goes Too Far" is going to provide education/training sessions for us in Sierra Vista on Friday, 8/9, at 2:00pm via zoom. There will be another session on Monday, 8/12, at 6:00 pm. The director, Olivia Escobedo, needs to have the email addresses of those who want to participate in advance, so she is able to vet everyone. I am not sure where this will go after the education/training session. At least, then, we will be prepared to be a part of the solution!

I hope and pray that all of you will attempt to be at one of these training sessions. We must help protect these innocent babies.

Diane asks that you provide her your permission and email address so that she can notify MS Escobedo who will be attending which session.

Spiritual Reading: Pat

Conference Members Sick or in Distress: Deacon George and Martha, Deacon Mike and Helen, Ruby and Norm, Kathy and Mike, Toni's mom.

Prayers for others: Will be emailed separately

Vincentian Schedule: Will be emailed separately.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- Food Bank Meeting:

- Finance Meeting: Thursday, 22 Aug 24 at 10:00 AM
- Thrift Store Meeting: Tuesday, 13 Aug 24 at 1:00 PM
- Ad Hoc Meeting:
- Board Meeting: Thursday, 29 Aug 24 at 10:00 AM

Closing Prayer: Pauline

Adjourned: 6:06 PM

Recorder: Pat