

Saint Vincent de Paul Society
Board Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2025

Website: svdpstluke.org

Present: Gemma Brennan, Sharon Bianchi, Jill Bradley, Paul Capelli, Kathy Minton, Barbara Neary, Meg Otchy, Mary Schwarz, Debbie Weingroff, Gen Yachnik

Absent: Joe Damato

Gemma, president: commenced meeting at 1:30 pm followed by **Debbie**, spiritual advisor, with SVdP opening prayer.

Debbie Weingroff, spiritual advisor:

-Will handle the retreat set up with Sr. Anita for Thursday, March 27. Sign-up will begin at the general meeting on February 21 or email Debbie. Debbie will discuss further with Sr. Anita and then provide more details to SVdP members. Cost \$10 pp, bring your own lunch, SVdP will provide beverages.

-SVdP to host the Stations of the Cross, Friday, April 4, 7 pm with Mary Schwarz and Frank Kelly as readers.

-Sunday, September 28, 10 am Mass, SVdP re-commitment service.

Sharon Bianchi, treasurer:

Weekly deposit = \$1,223. Checking account balance = \$29,114.84 (includes the deposit).

Gemma (update for Joe Damato) – client status

-Client #1 – Social Services Agency, to date, has been unable to assist. Client now wants a new mobile home. This is beyond SVdP scope and SVdP will no longer pay for his expenses. Food still being delivered from our food pantry.

-Client #2 – see February 3 minutes for further details. Client to meet with Gemma on Friday. Gemma to obtain intake information. Pledges to date: St. Dominic's \$500, St. Barnabas \$1,000, St. Luke's \$1,000, awaiting St. Joe's response. Board approved the possibility of paying another \$500, if needed, to enable client to move into the house, provided meeting with Gemma is positive.

-Potential clients #3 and #4 – per County SVdP, **do not assist** these individuals. They have been going to multiple SVdPs.

Jill Bradley, secretary:

-Updated Ministry Participation List was emailed to all coordinators and board members on February 6. Coordinators to provide any changes in members to Jill by Monday, February 24. To date, 109 members are serving 199 positions in 13 ministries. Amazing participation by members enabling multiple ministries to assist our neighbors.

-February 3 board meeting minutes, approved, redacted, and sent to website and outlook.

Mary Schwarz, food pantry coordinator:

-Last Friday had no food for home deliveries.

-Monday's delivery – we now have meats, chicken, milk.

-Clients continue to increase in numbers.

Barbara Neary, fundraising coordinator:

-Father Alphonse concert – considering for fundraiser, possibly September 2025, needs to look at Fr. Alphonse's schedule and then get permission from Kathleen Muzzio and Fr. Michael. Board feels this could be very successful. Would put our time into promoting this to senior communities, towns, stores, etc. All of Father's concerts have been sell outs. Considering ticket cost between \$50-\$60.

Paul Capelli, furniture coordinator:

- On vacation until mid March. Any donations for furniture call 609-557-7837.
- Rosa Garcia at Vincent's Legacy can also assist – 908-601-6512.
- Harrogate has furniture to donate to Vincent's Legacy.

Meg Otchy, garden coordinator:

- One bed left to be repaired, Matt MacCarrick will complete that bed.
- Cow manure has been spread throughout the garden.
- Charlie Yannelli will be working on the water problem – hopefully fixed by next month.
- Meg growing the beginning of several crops in her house.

Gen Yachnik, helping hands (HH):

- Christine and staff presented Annette Aversa with certificate of appreciation for all her donations.
- Reviewed HH closing dates to transition from winter to summer clothing: closed from March 14 – March 28. Staff will be working but closed to clients. Will reopen March 31.
- Month of April will promote handbags. Donations gladly accepted. Per Gemma, Redeem-Her House resident has 40 to donate.

Kathy Minton, technology coordinator:

- Created flier for SVdP members to hand out to parishioners on February 16, Social Sunday.
- Farro's apparel will be back on line – now has option for shipping cost or pick up at store.
- Pending discussion with Joan Olden, may consider working on the Diocese's SVdP website.

Gemma:

- February 12, 1:30 pm, County Meeting – four members will attend.
 - February 16, Social Sunday, SVdP to host after the masses. Tom Spina to provide fiscal results posters for display in Narthax and Parish Center. Posters will be displayed providing conference pictures of activities and events.
 - February 17, Presidents' Day, SVdP closed, no board meeting.
 - February 21, general meeting, coordinators please provide Gemma with fiscal year results.
 - 2025 SVdP calendar handed out – will be provided to church staff and all SVdP members.
 - Aurora Ormsby will be the liaison to the Board for the Community Comfort Dinners.
 - Code Blue shelters – our SVdP providing extra food and clothes.
- Meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Debbie – facilitated closing SVdP prayer. Please continue to pray for Mary's niece, Barbara, Bob Bauer, Ed Rohloff's wife, Diane, Gemma and family, and Marie DeSordi (now in rehab).

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Bradley, Secretary