

Saint Vincent de Paul
Board Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2025

Website – svdpstluke.org

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

Absent: Joe Damato, Paul Capelli

Debbie Weingroff, spiritual advisor: meeting commenced at 1:30 pm with SVdP opening prayer.

Sharon Bianchi, treasurer: Deposits = \$1,243 (includes \$500 check from a Renaissance resident); checking account balance = \$24,465.21 (includes paver money and garden donation equal to approximately \$5,000).

Client//Home Visit Presentations and Updates

Michelle Jones:

Client #1 – 52 yrs, spouse 31 yrs, child 6 yrs. Has lived at Hope's Crossing for one year. Spouse works as a para teacher at an elementary school. Client now working at BJ's Wholesale, part time as cashier, working towards full time. No health insurance for adults, child is on NJ healthcare. Joint income = \$2800, expenses = \$3053, net = (-\$253). Client is in arrears in gas, electric, rent, and has not paid taxes in three years. Has eviction notice effective March 31. Family moved from Arizona, lived in motel for one year and then moved to Hope's Crossing. Client had worked at BJ's restaurant but hours were cut. **Board declined financial assistance** as client has not attempted to pay any of these bills and our assistance would not get them out of this hole. Client has local family members who may be able to assist. Food pantry and helping hands are available resources for client. Michelle will provide client with information on medical insurance.

Client #2 – 76 yrs, lives alone at Raymor Park Mobile Home Park for the past seven years, no relatives, owns trailer, (sold home seven years ago for \$100,000 and has been living on that). Income = \$248 (net social security) plus \$240 (food stamps), expenses = \$835, net = (-\$587). Client in arrears in rent, electric, homeowner insurance, gas (that has been taken care of by gas company). Neighbors in this Park help each other – loan money, phones, etc. Social Security was reduced – states client has \$35,000 in stocks, client has none. Client needs to get to Social Security now and get this straightened out. **Board approved payment of \$631 (annual insurance for trailer) and \$500 (one month rent) = \$1131.14.** Client uses our food pantry – no car – uses Uber.

Jill Bradley, secretary: **Cases needing ratification** (emails sent by Joe Damato and vote approved by email vote):

Client #3 – March 1, 2025 email, **approved \$1,000 rent** to Hopes Crossing. Ratified.

Client #4 – February 28 email & February 24 board minutes, **approved \$1622 rent.** Ratified.

Client #5 – February 26 email and February 24 board minutes, **approved \$550 rent** – two weeks at Right Coast Recovery. Ratified.

Client #6 – February 24 board meeting **approved additional \$300 rent.** Jill contacted Phoenix Recovery House for correct address.

Gemma, president: update on **client #7**, see board minutes of February 24 and February 10. Gemma will contact St. Mary's for twinning possibility. Client now needs \$4900 for rent. Prior commitments from St. Joe's, \$1000, St. Barnabas, \$1,000, St. Dominic's, \$500, St. Luke's, \$1,000 = total of \$3500. Client still needs \$1,400. **Board approved additional \$500 and will pick up the difference based on what St. Mary's can twin.** Therefore St. Luke's is committed between \$1,500 - \$2400.

Financial payment to clients from meeting = \$6103.14 plus potential of additional \$1,400
(\$1131.14-#2, \$1,000-#3, \$1622-#4, \$550-#5, \$300-#6, \$1500 to \$2400- #7)

Mary Schwarz, food pantry coordinator:

- February numbers – served 472 adults, 227 children = 699 individuals (206 families).
- Need to obtain annual food handler's license.
- Per Fulfill – need to reduce number of items being given to clients.

Gemma:

- Received \$500 donation from a neighbor at Renaissance.
- March 12 - County Meeting.
- Will call St. Mary's for possible twinning for client #7.
- Pastor Rhetta is requesting that St. Luke's become a Code Blue facility. Pastor will speak to Father Michael and Katheen Muzzio.
- Retreat, March 27 with Sr. Anita - need three to four members to assist Mary Jo Phillips with beverages/snacks. Gemma not able to attend retreat. Jill will contact Mary Jo to determine needs and how to assist.
- Provided Debbie with names of persons wanting to attend the retreat, Cathy McGann and Jonianne Bencivenga.
- Developed article for the Renaissance Times – it thanked residents for their continued support of SVdP. This also serves as a way of letting others know about SVdP and possibly encourage new volunteers. This can be used as a template for other adult communities.

Barbara Neary, fundraising coordinator:

- Dine to Dollars fundraisers:
 - Thursday, April 10, Zi Marie's. Obtained approval from K. Muzzio to hand out flyers after the weekend masses.
 - June, will have one at Jersey Mike's, Silverton - obtain 20 % of sales, open from 10 am – 9 pm.
- Gemma met with Charlie Rott – next weekend to sell pavers will be in May.

Debbie:

Working on March 27 retreat. Have participant names from SVdP and WWPurpose Bible class – about 40 participants as of this meeting. Waiting for response from the Rosarians. Gemma will open to all SVdPs. Maximum number = 90. Break-even would be 60 participants. Cost for Sister Anita is \$600.

Kathy Minton, technology coordinator:

- Will produce flyers for the dine to dollars for handouts to SVdP members, WWPurpose members, and church parishioners.
- Obtaining information on the procedure for raffle license.
- Continues to update the website.
- Provided Gemma with Certificate of Appreciation for North Dover Elementary School (soup can fundraiser)

Gen Yachnik, helping hands (HH):

Reminders – will be closed to clients from March 14 – March 28 (transition to spring/summer clothing) and reopen on March 30. April - HH will promote dresses/handbags for weddings/proms.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm. Debbie facilitated closing SVdP prayer. Also include in your prayers: Lola (friend of Meg's), Marie DeSordi (back in rehab), Mary's niece Barbara and nephew Marco, Karen Rott (surgery), Gemma (tests – she is getting tired of tests!!!) and Pope Francis.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Bradley, Secretary