

**Saint Vincent de Paul
Board Meeting
November 11, 2024**

Website: svdpstluke.org

Present: *Gemma Brennan, Sharon Bianchi, Jill Bradley, Paul Capelli, Joe Damato, Frank Kelly, Kathy Minton, Barbara Neary, Meg Otchy, Ben Russell, Mary Schwarz, Debbie Weingroff, Gen Yachnik, Father Michael*

Absent: none

Gemma, president: commenced meeting at 1:30 pm followed by Debbie with opening prayer

Father Michael: thanked members for SVdP gift to him for becoming pastor. Comments from his presentation:

-There will be no further expansion of room for SVdP because of a number of other organizations now using the parish rooms. Therefore, if storage becomes a problem, either limit what we are doing or consider working with other organization to off load surplus items.

-Has no intention of getting rid of our SVdP conference but we must work within set boundaries.

-Contacting diocese to have Kathleen Muzzio promoted to pastoral assistant and will hire a part time business manager.

-SVdP can not be in competition with church activities. No more magic shows - supernatural conflict with church teachings.

-Father will provide Gemma notes on these areas plus other areas he presented. His comments will be discussed at a future board meeting, considering that many of the members could not clearly hear what he was saying.

Sharon Bianchi, treasurer

-Presented fiscal year results/chart (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024). Total aid to neighbors in need = \$283,783 (includes food/garden, clothing/household items, financial assistance).

-Tom Spina's company will develop posters for SVdP results to be displayed for the parishioners to view.

-Checking account balance = \$27, 549 (includes \$1,948 weekend mass donations).

Ramon Garcia, home visit presentation

Client, #1, 39 yrs, four children (ages 12, 9, 2, 10 months) lived in Lakewood apartment, speaks very little English, client's children act as interpreters, had to move out of apartment because of lead in pipes. Spouse does not live with family, had work accident and is blind in one eye. Client has been out of work for two years to care for the 2 year old who has heart and lung issues. Moved into home in Toms River in May 2024, was receiving rent assistance from family members. Now working for the landlord, cleaning homes. Landlord is Mordecai Tesler, pays client in cash, no documentation of income, rent is \$3500 per month, charges additional \$500 if late past a certain date. Rent in arrears \$4,000, electric in arrears \$1,000 (at \$100 a month since May – doesn't add up to \$1,000). Client is renting attic to person and also looking to have a renter in the basement.

Board declined support. No way any help will get client out of these problems, can not afford to stay there, seems like this is an illegal issue of renting as there is no lease agreement. Client can contact Legal Aid, Ocean Inc Energy for electric assistance, and Gemma will discuss with Homeless Coalition for possible ideas for client. Client needs to move out of that house.

Gemma:

-November 13, SVdP county meeting, St. Luke's, about 30 representatives will be present.

-**2025 calendar** – general meetings proposed, March 21, June 20, September 19, December 12.

Two additional meetings – prayer service with Fr. Al and retreat with nuns. **Board approved.**

-December 13 – next general meeting, hot meal, need to advise if attending.

-Community Comfort and Fellowship Dinner (CCFD) November 21 – looking for more volunteers to set up and clean up. Currently there are 29 SVdP member volunteers plus some parishioners. Several board members suggested organizing the current volunteers on a rotating basis to assist these needs. Gemma to suggest moving the dinner to 4 pm as the days darken.

-Boy Scouts, 6:30 pm, November 18, delivering food. CCD students will help unpack, food to be stored on conference table to then check for expiration dates.

-Homeless/Housing Coalition – Pastor Sue to speak for five minutes at December 13 general meeting (board approved), town hall meeting on November 18, 6:30 pm regarding the 17 bed issue if anyone wants to attend.

-Board approved hosting one social Sunday weekend in January. One shot deal – no more!

Jill Bradley, secretary

-All minutes approved, redacted and on website.

-Ministry List now updated. Thank you to all coordinators.

-2024 – 2025 **Member Registration Forms** are on the website. Requesting, for Linda P's needs, that all coordinators have ministry members complete, provide completed form back to you, and then provide all **forms to Jill by December 6**. Jill then needs to work with Linda to have her report completed by year end.

-WWP bible class – collecting food for the pantry through November 20 (provided monetary donations to Mary and Sharon).

Mary Schwarz, food pantry coordinator

-Pantry is well stocked. One hundred more turkey's delivered by Fulfill.

-Results January 1, 2024 – October 31, 2024...served 2,179 families. Will surpass past years.

-Two members of AA are requesting to work – Mary referred them to Linda Panaccione.

-Getting volunteers ready for November 18 open night, 5:30 -7:30 pm. Monthly open night will be revised to the third Monday of the month (board approved). Limit this to CCD parents and home visit clients who are unable to get to the food pantry during the day.

Barbara Neary, fundraising coordinator

-Mardi Gras cost analysis = \$400. Not sure of benefit. Board decided to table this – not enough benefit vs cost and also possible conflict with CCD activities (in light of Fr. Michael's comments).

-Looking at Houlihan's for dine-out, liquor included in total bill, provides 15 – 20 % return. Need further clarification from Fr. Michael as to what he will and will not approve.

Golf outing – Paul will advise but not run this. Gemma needs to go out to the membership to see if someone is willing to run and set up a committee.

Paul Capelli, furniture coordinator

-Thank you, Meg, for stepping in for Paul and Pat on Saturday.

-Delivery of beds to Robert Williams family, have nothing, need help. HH has a Christmas Tree and ornaments we can provide. Will have to obtain information on client to see where assistance needed- two parents, two boys, age 2 and 18 months.

Gen Yachnik, helping hands

- Distributed list of items that HH can not accept.
- Accepting Christmas décor and decorations.
- Reported on HH distribution and number of individuals served.

Kathy Minton, technology coordinator

- Donor certificates (will be in frames) completed.
- Updating office computer (all of the board minutes and Gemma's notes will be sent to a SVdP address to upload on the computer, alleviating all the “hard” paper copies.
- Met with Chris Resotko today, will assist on computer, set October 1, 2025 as deadline for all files to be electronic.

Susan DeMillio, toy drive coordinator (Gemma for Susan)

- Registration of toys has ended, 280 children signed up.
- Meeting with Kathleen Muzzio to review parish requests.
- Rotary delivering toys/bicycles on November 22.

Next meeting – possibility of November 18. TBD if cases to discuss.

Gemma - adjourned meeting at 3:45 pm followed by Debbie with SVdP prayer. Please include in your prayers: Miguel Garcia (now in remission), Mary Egging, Rose Saviello (just had brain surgery), Archie Miller, Rita Williams (in hospice), Carl Gilanti, Aiden Lockerbie, Debbie, and Gemma (special intentions).

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Bradley, secretary