

St. Vincent de Paul  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 21, 2024

**Website:** svdpstluke.org

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

**Gemma**, president:

Commenced meeting at 1 pm followed by Debbie with prayer for the installation of Gemma as continuing president. Presented Gemma with new president “pin” we know she will proudly wear!

**Donna Scattrito – home visit presentation**

**Client, #1**, 63 yrs, two children, lives at Homestead Run with a disabled child and cat. Client doesn't work, can't leave child alone. Total income = \$2057 (\$1049 SS, \$122 SSI, SSDI \$886 for child plus receives food stamps but doesn't know how much), expenses = \$1505, net income = \$552. Ocean Inc. pays for mobile home gas. Client has four credit cards with a total of \$3,248 credit debt. Client requests \$500.22 for rent in arrears. Client also in arrears for electric and water with high cable/internet of \$246. Client and child smoke two packs of cigarettes per day.

Client in arrears because of financial support for other child (various amounts per month) as that child's headaches often keep the child from working (no info on cause of these headaches/ medical diagnosis) and client spends a lot on cigarettes. That child with headaches works as a BPO (Broker Price Opinions) - a real estate agent or broker's professional opinion of how much a property could sell for.

Board and Donna are not comfortable with this case because of continuing support of the child before client pays client's own bills and amount spent on cigarettes. **Board approved rent payment of \$500.22.** Client to be advised: cannot come back to SVdP for a year (12 months), suggest pay bills before assisting child, and suggest client reduce some expenses.

**Gil Kerrigan – home visit presentation**

**Client, #2**, 55 yrs, three children, two live with client (ages 19 and 21), client lost job but no reason as to why, received unemployment of \$1,144 per month for four months. Client states former job paid \$60,000 per year. Just obtained new job (receptionist). Income = \$3,498 (\$3,098 employment, \$400 child support - client suing ex- spouse for more child support), expenses = \$3854, net = negative (-\$356). Client is in arrears for oil \$490, electric \$2271, cell phone \$57, and cable \$136. Rent at \$2190 is 63% of income. Client requests assistance with electric bill – owes \$2271.

How did client get so behind in all these areas if only unemployed for four months and receiving some assistance through unemployment. **Board declined support at this time.** Client was to contact the following resources: Hope Center, Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, Ocean Inc., and the Electric Company for assistance.

**Gemma – update on client #3 – home visit board presentation on October 14, 2024**

St. Joe's agreed to twin for \$900. Our SVdP will pay the remainder of \$862. Gemma has advised client, client's mother (also former SVdP client) and all county SVdP presidents, that no more support is to be provided to these clients.

**Joe Damato – emergency request, Michelle Jones has tried to meet with client.**

**Client #4**, three children (one is autistic), lives at Hopes Crossing. Client works one day at a restaurant and other days for parent's cleaning service. Client has eviction notice, went to court, and ordered to pay \$1200. Client paid \$700 but needs remaining \$500 or eviction will take place. Joe has no other information at this time. **Board approved \$500 rent to avoid eviction** and Joe/Michelle to obtain additional information on this client.

**Sharon Bianchi, treasurer**

Donations from weekend masses = \$638.95

St. Joe's twinning deposit (Guzman) = \$900

Bosco fundraising support, additional = \$25

Total checking account balance as of today = \$20,915.71.

Magician for fundraiser still needs to be paid reducing the above balance by \$1,155

Total Bosco fundraiser = \$1745.

Gemma and Sharon working on annual report due October 31.

**Client financial support approved at this meeting = \$1,000.22** (client #1= \$500.22, client #4 = \$500)

**Mary Schwarz, food pantry coordinator**

Consider opening one Monday night per month as a start – possibly Monday, November 18, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Will advise Lisa for some CCD parents in need. Must be members of Fulfill and show ID. Will have to determine best way to promote this.

Leisure Knolls had food drive and provided many items to the pantry.

Fulfill will also be providing Thanksgiving fixings.

Boy Scouts will be doing a food drive after November 19.

**Barbara Neary, fundraising coordinator**

Presented a list of ideas for 2025:

- Feb. 28 – Mardi Gras, need approval from Fr. Michael, donations will be items for the pantry.
- May – bus trip to Padre Pio Shrine, PA (board not in favor as trip is two hours each way).
- May and November- paver sales, August dance - SVdP provides DJ, cake, tea, coffee while attendees bring snacks and BYOB, October – ladies tea, Fall Golf Outing.
- Kathy Minton, "Minted" – like Amazon Smile. Discussed "Wish List." Board not sure needed and don't want to store more items. We get great response from parish bulletin and Flocknotes.

**Paul Capelli, furniture coordinator – (Gemma for Paul)**

Gabriella's furniture delivered.

**Meg Otchy, garden coordinator**

Termites in garden beds – wood was not treated. For replacement of beds will consider treated wood or metal. Must get rid of termites.

Gemma obtained \$5k check from Elaine Morrison, for Garden needs. Any left over money will be donated to the food pantry. Elaine will pay for her own paver, wants SVdP to purchase a bench for the Garden with plaque for her donation.

**Gen Yachnik, helping hands**

Will be seeking a member volunteer to act as Substitute Coordinator. This will be contact person for those unable to make their shift.

All members have been reminded of the need to obtain a sub if unable to make shift and contact HH Coordinator if sub not available.

Moving of boxes to and from the parish center closet and warehouse requires individuals who can lift heavy boxes. Many members are unable to do this because of medical conditions. That puts a heavy load on those few who can do this. Try to steer new members to HH that are able to lift these items.

**Kathy Minton, technology coordinator**

Working on Appreciation Certificates for those who provide ongoing support.  
Continues to update the website.

**Sue DeMillio, toy event coordinator (Gemma for Susan)**

Please contact Susan Marino Jennings ([smarinojennings@gmail.com](mailto:smarinojennings@gmail.com)) if you can assist with gift wrapping for Christmas. Church has requested SVdP wrap gifts from church's Annual Giving Tree.

**Jill Bradley, secretary**

Updating quarterly ministry list. Will provide to board members and ministry coordinators by the end of this week.

All minutes up to date and provided to Kathy Minton for placement on the website.

Working with Linda P - contacting potential members who have not completed requirements.

Once new 2025 Membership Form (from Linda P) is on the website, Jill will contact coordinators to have their members complete the form. Will work out needed dates with Linda P.

**Gemma-**

Fr. Michael will attend the November 11 board meeting.

Consider Frank Kelly for possible board member, as needed.

Community and Comfort Dinner – October 24. Meeting with Marie Alfano on joint effort.

With Kathleen Muzzio, discussed placement of fiscal year SVdP results in the parish bullet.

TR Homeless and Housing Coalition meeting of October 14 – great results happening, received numerous grant money including \$7.5k from the County. Will now have six code blue locations – new one United Methodist Church, TR.

General Meetings will now officially be quarterly – next one December 13.

Board meetings – board approved moving to every other week (unless a crisis occurs that can't be handled by email).

Tom Spina's company will produce the Annual Fiscal Year Results Board for display.

Prays for Rita Williams (hospice), Archie Miller (health), Miguel Garcia (Ramon's son), Aiden (Gemma's grandson), Mary Egging (still having seizures), Margaret Waterhouse (entered eternal life – past member), Greg DeForest (chemo), Marcia Branca (Kathy's cousin) and special intention (Debbie).

Adjourned meeting at 3:45 pm followed by Debbie with SVdP closing prayer.

**Note – board meeting time has been changed to 1:30 pm (instead of 1 pm).**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Bradley, Secretary

