

St. Vincent de Paul
Board Meeting Minutes
June 30, 2025 svdpstluke.org

Present: *Jill Bradley, Paul Capelli, Joe Damato, Kathy Minton, Barbara Neary, Meg Otchy, Mary Schwarz, Debbie Weingroff, Gen Yachnik*

Absent: *Gemma Brennan, Sharon Bianchi*

Meeting commenced at 1:30 pm with SVdP prayer.

Home Visitors Presentations

Ramon Garcia, client #1 – age 41, spouse age 34, two children (6&3), moved from FL to NJ, leased town house, paid \$5100 deposit, rent is \$3400. Client hired as manager for Kay Jewelers (same job in FL) but laid off several weeks ago. Spouse has manager job at Starbucks (same as in FL). Spouse discharged from military late 2024, awaiting reimbursement expenses from the military. Prior to client's lay off, income was approximately \$7,000, now only spouse income = \$4006 + snap \$754 = total of \$4760. Expenses = \$6240, net = (-\$1480). Client has applied for unemployment. Family Promise sent couple to SVdP! Request is for \$1960 – rent in arrears. Landlord patient, no threat of eviction, understands the situation. **Board approved payment of \$1960 rent pending:** proof of honorable discharge, W9 from landlord, and letter from military as to how much is owed to client.

Tom Jones, client #2 – age 67, resides at Oxford House (sober house), has been sober for 18 months, has two children who live out of state, client of food pantry. During the school year works for food service company in the cafeteria of school (works 45 hours per week for income of \$1252), currently unemployed (school's out), applying for unemployment and position with Instacart. Social security payment is \$771. Expenses = \$1423. Hoping to get back to work in September. Rent = \$823, in arrears \$570. Credit card debt of \$7,000. Fell behind because of transmission repair on car – daughters helped client pay for this. **Board approved \$570 rent.**

Joe Damato – we have now had several requests from Oxford House residents. Joe to contact the organization, see if there is a social worker to assist residents with other social services rather than all coming to our SVdP.

Financial payments to clients = \$2530 (see above)

Board Members

Jill Bradley, secretary:

- Minutes are current.
- Membership list has been updated by all coordinators – thank you for your responses.
- Five new members: four to food pantry, one to helping hands. One potential member pending paperwork. Parish office just provided another possible member (new parishioner). Jill will contact the person.

Kathy Minton, technology coordinator:

- Working on client payment spreadsheet.
- Reviewing folders for completed Board Determination Sheets.
- Frank Kelly to check Stop and Shop – for possible donations.
- Looking for new office computer.

Mary Schwarz, food pantry coordinator:

- Received "Translate Live" from Fulfill – will be trying it out. Three years free use.
- Grant for new computer from Fulfill – approved. Will be receiving about July 7.

Great Job, Mary. Major kudos!!!

- Resolved EZ pass issue – only owe 85 cents.
- Each Stitch Counts – receiving donations, laundry sheets. Organization's fundraiser, Freddy's, July 23, 12-5 pm. Mary to pass out fliers.
- KC requests use of two temperature sticks for the freezers, John Connelly to order from Amazon.
- Received extra items from Instacart – thank you, Gemma.

Barbara Neary, fundraising coordinator:

- Result of members response on potential fundraisers – Padre Pio and Dine to Donate (most votes), next (all equal votes) Cape May Trolley, Newark Museum, Alconquin Theater, Cash Raffle. Consider 50/50 raffle with ticket cost \$5-\$10 dollars.
- Will check with various ice cream shops for possible fundraisers.

Meg Otchy, garden coordinator:

- No water, again!!! Charlie Yannelli brought in 12 gallons of water. Discussed with KC and he will "look into it." Not really enough when weather is hot. Fortunately, Mother Nature has provided some water.
- Meg purchased soaker hoses as the ones from Fulfill were a joke.
- Board discussion - gallons can be filled up with water at the church (using the faucets in the maintenance cleaning closets). Possible use of the kids to assist watering and filling up the gallons. Currently growing corn, strawberries, beans, basil, garlic, cantaloupe, etc.

Gen Yachnik, helping hands:

- Stock is good, providing some clothing to other non-profits.

Paul Capelli, furniture coordinator:

- Expect to hear status of grant requests by mid-July.
- Training Chris Resotko for home visits and possible furniture assistance.

Board Discussion – questions to consider for July 14 meeting regarding the position of Executive Director for the District Council of Trenton. Will be sent separately to board members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm followed by SVdP closing prayer. Please include: Barbara Neary's request for the passing of Laura B's mother, for all - a safe July 4th celebration, and a safe return of Gemma and Sharon.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Bradley, Secretary