

Saint Vincent de Paul
Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2025

Website: svdpstluke.org

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

Absent: none

Gemma, president: opened meeting with SVdP prayer, 1 pm.

Gemma – update on **client #1**. Client now moving to SC since no affordable homes in NJ area. Section 8 will provide a voucher that can be used in SC. Client has family in SC and can move in with sister until a home is found. Expected expenses will be around \$3,000 as opposed to the \$4900 that was needed in NJ. Gemma will look into SC SVdP for client assistance.

Jill Bradley, secretary

-Ratification - **client #2**. Email case from Joe Damato, March 9, 2025, board approved, by email vote, payment of **\$510.79 for water** and **\$151.98 for cable/internet**. Client is 65 and disabled. Left job because of injury that occurred at client's home. Can not receive unemployment since client left the job. Section 8 voucher just came through for move to NY (had applied 15 years ago). Found an apartment and public transportation that will provide client more opportunities for employment – client does not own a car. Case was ratified at this meeting.

-Board minutes up to date and Kathy Minton is posting on the website.

Mary Schwarz, food pantry coordinator

-Deliveries are received between 9 – 11 am every Monday or Friday and the second Monday of every month. Need help to unload.

-Three members no longer able to work for food pantry – need additional assistance.

-Capacity Grant has opened from Fulfill, Mary to obtain three bids for computers and submit to Fulfill.

-Fulfill requiring update on all clients – has to be completed by SVdP staff – time consuming.

Barbara Neary, fundraising coordinator

-**Dining to Donate reminder** - Zi Marie's April 10, SVdP receives 25% and Jersey Mike's June 10, SVdP receives 20%. Sent letter to Cool Beans for their consideration. Will need assistance to hand out after the masses (three members per each mass). Jill to hand out at WWP Bible group, Barbara to hand out at CCFD.

-Try to support Fr. Michael's events – Barbara only SVdP member at the Pancake event.

-Next year, trunk or treat, consider possibility to use SVdP van and have group decorate and hand out candy – good visibility.

Paul Capelli, furniture coordinator

-Warehouse is full but will always consider donations.

-Had two cases while on vacation.

Meg Otchy, garden coordinator

Ready for irrigation, Charlie Y to contact Jess from Fulfill.

Gen Yachnik, helping hands (HH)

-HH will reopen to clients on March 31. April will display gowns, shoes, pocketbooks – proms, weddings, etc.

-Spring/Summer clothes for children needs – girls sizes 4 - 7 years and 14 – 16 years.

Kathy Minton, technology coordinator

-Designed Certificate of Appreciation for Fr. Michael and Kathleen Muzzio – board approved.

-Farro's Apparel – good response from members to purchase items.

-Sent note to Kathleen Muzzio – reminder to link the church web to SVdP website.

Gemma:

-Purchased four boxes of SVdP envelopes and letterhead = \$447.

-Discussed results of last County Meeting for 17 beds at Episcopal Church – neighborhood not in favor. Next meeting April 10.

-Pastor Rhetta sent letter to Father Michael requesting St. Luke be a Code Blue facility one day a week.

-Ocean County Board of Social Services invited Gemma to attend their meeting at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Beachwood, April 7 from 11 – 12:30 pm.

Next board meeting, Monday, March 24, 1:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm. Please include in your prayers: Marie De Sordi, Mary S's family members, Derek, and Gemma/ her surgeon.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Bradley, Secretary