

**Saint Vincent de Paul  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2024**

**Website:** [svdpstluke.org](http://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, Gen Yachnik*

**Absent:** *Debbie Weingroff*

**Gemma, president:** commenced meeting at 1:30 pm followed by SVdP opening prayer

- Good member reaction to December combined general meeting and Christmas celebration.
- Susan DeMillio and committee – great job, over 300 toy packages for guests' children.

**Tom Jones, home visit presentation:**

Client # 1, 31 yrs old, parent of four (10,9,5,3), has lived at the Willows for two years, Section 8 housing, stay at home parent (one autistic child). Client's "significant other" works full time. Some bad decisions on client's part caused rent to be in arrears. Rent in arrears = \$2735. Other areas also in arrears, gas (\$200), electric (\$1,300 - client is protesting, says she paid, electric company says she didn't). Income = \$3,774 (wages = \$2,800 plus social security = \$974 for autistic child). Client also receives food stamps of \$600. Expenses = \$2,679, net = \$1,095.

Catholic Charities agreed to pay \$1900.31 if SVdP would pay the remaining **\$803.78 in rent** to avoid eviction. **Board approved** the payment.

**Suzanne Tilton and Gin O'Boyle – home visit presentation:**

Client # 2, 31 yrs old, eight year old child, lives at Green Meadows, was laid off for three months from hospital position that caused client to fall behind in rent. Income = \$2300 plus \$350 in food stamps for a total income of \$2,650, expenses = \$1,376, net = \$1,274. Rent in arrears = \$1206. Client has obtained utility assistance from USF. Now working part time for Monmouth Medical Center and trying to obtain overtime. Board **approved rent payment of \$1206** (client must pay the court and late fees).

**Gil Kerrigan, home visit presentation:**

Client # 3, 38 yrs old, two children (19, 15), no spouse, no child support, lives at Hopes Crossing. Client's income started on December 3, LPN at Complete Care, Brick, had been out of work for three months. Income = \$5000, expenses = \$3444, net = \$1556. Rent in arrears = \$5383. Eviction notice – went to court - client has \$3,000 to pay towards the rent. **Board approved \$1500 payment contingent** on client paying the \$3000.

**Joe Damato, home visit presentation:**

Client # 4, came out of hospital stay, has cancer and has been in and out of the hospital many times. Lives in dilapidated mobile home at Friendly Village. Long time client of SVdP in need of assistance. Friend who drove Peter recently passed so Peter has limited ability to go anywhere. Received **gas bill of \$304.31 - board approved payment.**

**Joe Damato, home visit presentation:**

FYI of potential client # 5 was homeless, friend took client in and is now subletting room from friend, mobile home at Friendly Village, is also a client of Fulfill. Not enough info to make any

decision.

**Sharon Bianchi, treasurer:**

Checking account balance = \$32,870.78, includes week's donations = \$5,902.

**Total client financial payments approved at meeting = \$3,814.09 (Client #1 - \$803.78, Client #2 - \$1206, Client #3 - \$1500, Client #4 - \$304.31).**

**Barbara Neary, fundraising coordinator:**

-Ideas that need to be discussed with Fr. Michael (still no response from Father regarding the November 11 board meeting) – money raffle, tea with mothers and daughters, possible joint concert with several local SVdP chapters.

-Paul Capelli's son-in-law works for Jersey Mike's. Paul will provide Barbara with their fundraising opportunities.

**Mary Schwarz, food pantry coordinator:**

-Food pantry – open tonight, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. In good shape with food.

-Good response from Flocknotes – will use when in significant need.

-Continuing and growing issue of persons (most non- English speaking) renting rooms in places and coming for separate food. Can not be done. Fulfill can only be given to one per household – not multiples. Very time consuming for staff and frustrating for staff and guests as it bottlenecks the food process. **Gemma** – will contact the County about this issue/zoning issue/ and see how to improve this situation.

**Gen Yachnik, helping hands:**

-Will not open on December 23 and then will remain closed until Monday, January 6.

-Remainder of the Farro's Tees donations are under the stairwell, approved by Kathleen Muzzio – per Kathleen, please keep all those items away from the heater and the descending stairs.

**Paul Capelli, furniture coordinator:**

Two more furniture deliveries to be completed.

**Kathy Minton, technology coordinator:**

-Seven certificates of appreciation left to be completed.

-Resource list for the homeless is updated and being placed on our website.

**Gemma:**

-Meetings - will try to keep board meetings to three per month and general meetings to four per year plus retreat and luncheon (six in total).

-Adjourned meeting at 4 pm followed by SVdP closing prayer. Please keep Peter Juras, Joe's brother James, Mary's niece Barbara, baby Dawson, along with all members/donors of SVdP in your prayers.

-Jill and Gemma – consider writing articles in adult community magazines for more volunteers, per Frank Kelly's comment of needs when volunteers leave for winter destinations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Bradley, Secretary