



NORTHWEST DISTRICT-ST LOUIS COUNCIL
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL

Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2018

1. Meal before the meeting 6:30pm
Vincentians gathered at Assumption Parish Hall for a delicious meal served by parishioners and SVDP members. Thank you to the St. Louis Council for providing funds for the meal.
2. Meeting was opened at 7:00pm by Matt Medina
3. Opening Prayer was led by Lynda Atchison
4. Spiritual Reading led by Lynda Atchison from John: 13 about Judas, Jesus' betrayer, followed by a reflection on who is most difficult to serve and what we learn about serving difficult people.
5. Treasurer's Report presented by Brother Raphael Kreikemeier, FFS
Brother reported on the homeless expenses, and funds from the master account. In addition, he reported that 270 cases have been transferred to the Administry database for the homeless and will be available soon for caseworkers for the homeless. Copies of the financial reports are available for those conferences who need them or have questions. Treasurer's report was approved.
6. Secretary's Report -- Judy Doucette (Previously emailed and approved)
Secretary's report was accepted and approved.
7. Nomination Committee for NW District President -- Team Leader Joyce Cain
Gerry Adams of St. Theordore and Sandy Van Mill of St. Charles Borromeo will join Joyce Cain in the search for a NW District President.
8. Ozanam Training Results -- Matt Medina
Matt reported that there were 43 attendees attended the Ozanam training
9. Audits (Annual Requirement) Current Status -- Matt Medina

Seven conferences have completed their audits, with 10 conference audits remaining for FY 2018.

10. Term Limits Six Years -- Presidents and Treasurers -- Matt Medina

Matt reminded conferences that according to the rules, Presidents and Treasurers are limited to Six Year Terms. New officers should shadow the current officers to have time to be trained in their new positions.

11. 2018 Friends of the Poor Walk CO- Captain needed to work with Chris Smith

NEED A NEW CO-CAPTAIN TO WORK WITH CHRIS SMITH. Chris will train new co-captain to learn the job. It does not take a lot of time and everything is already structured.

12. Utility Status for the NW District – Matt Medina

Matt gave a report from Theresa that so far for FY2018, there were 125 clients helped, and \$18,500.00 spent.

13. Adminstry- New Client Reporting System -- Matt Medina

So far, the conferences using Adminstry find it very helpful. Some conferences still use their own system. Joyce Cain will be happy to answer questions about the use of this new database. Conferences using Adminstry include St. Charles Borromeo, Immaculate Conception in Old Monroe, St. Gianna, St. Robert, St. Cletus, and Assumption. ICD and NW District are in process of change over to Adminstry. Matt suggested that conferences invite Chris Willard , Adminstry’s developer to a meeting to demonstrate the database if they have an interest in using it. Chris can be contacted at 314-292-9105 or drwillard@gmail.com

14. NW District New Membership Goal- 10% increase FY2018 – Matt Medina

Members reported on their efforts to increase membership. Amy Kortkamp of ICD Said they invited people to January meeting for orientation; they received 10 new members. They also sent out mass e-mails. They train their new caseworkers. St. Joseph opened a new pantry and have a couple of new members to work in the pantry. Other conferences put notices and invitations in the bulletin and use mentors to help train new members. Matt Medina did mention of how important it was to assign a mentor to any new member who joins. Also, important is to find the “right” slot for new members. Example: Some new members might only want to work in the food pantry, while others would prefer to handle the phone calls, yet others are willing to do Home visits.

15. Car Reports – Due NLT 30 Days after Quarter Ending -- Matt Medina

Matt reminded Conferences about the CAR Reports due by April 30th.

16. Oasis Jobs for Life -Call Rick Fauser 636-248-0678 - Goal: Two referrals from each St. Charles County Conference. Out of the 50 clients that were processed in the last three (3) years, 20 were referred from St. Vincent de Paul. Approximately 40 churches of various denominations participate in this job training program. Clients are offered day care, transportation, a free dinner on class evenings, and have individual mentors.

17. Voice of the Poor – Rob Grillion- St. Louis Council

The Voice of the Poor meetings look at legislation that impact the poor. They try to come up with ideas to help the poor. They have worked on Advocacy, and a Strategic plan. They work with Catholic Charities and legislators. December's meeting included having earned income tax credit in legislation. Their goal is to include law and regulation changes rather than only food and utility help. The group meets once a month.

18. Homeless Program Update Matt Medina

Matt reported that there have been a total of 677 homeless people helped since the NW District established this Program in 2013. Great effort displayed by Conferences and the Homeless Coordinators!!! THANK YOU !!!

Matt also reported on the Warming Centers were established this winter on the nights the temperatures got below 20 Degrees. Some of the other churches helped by opening warming centers. The Police and Fire Departments and Yellow Cab participated by helping with the homeless by providing transportation and security to the warming centers.

The 211 Coordinated Entry program initiated Jan. 23rd is proving to be successful as far as identifying the number of homeless involved in St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren Counties.. From January 23-March 9, 170 people helped in St. Charles, 77 in O'Fallon, 75 in Wentzville, 55 in St. Peters, 40 in Warrenton, and 28 in Troy, 15 in Cottleville, 11 in Wright City, 9 in Lake St. Louis, 5 in Elsberry.

Paul Cook suggested that the Community Council needs to step up with monetary help for the homeless.

If the homeless person does not have a phone, they can get a card for a phone from 211 when they register in the system.

Matt reported that Joachim and Ann did spent \$150,000.00 on 25 people this past year.

He also said that people who are about to be evicted need to call 211, and SVDP can also call Pam Struckhoff at J & A and speak to her directly at 636-441-1302 or pstruckhoff@jacares.org If a family gets evicted is going to cost agencies between \$4000

or \$5000 to get them housed in another apartment, etc. That's why its CRITICAL TO GET ASSISTANCE TO PREVENT THEIR EVICTION.

Break

19. Mercy Neighborhood Ministry Presentation

Jenna Spurlock announced that a comprehensive resource guide is available online and each conference will receive a hard copy.

20. St. Louis Council Staff Updates

John Heithaus announcements: April 28 presentation by Matthew Kelly "Passion and Purpose" at the Family Arena.

Sunday, November 4th is Vincentian Sunday

Eastern District 2-full scholarships to National Association

The 9th Thrift Store has opened in Creve Coeur

Laney Lazier- Thrift Store Manager is St. Charles announced that she will be leaving the St. Charles and be managing the Ballwin Store. Debbie Savage will take over the St.

Charles store. Ann Yeager President of St. Joseph's SVDP said their conference is flush Thrift Store credits and would share with conferences in need of them. Please contact

Ann Yeager at St. Joes if you need store credits. Ann can be contacted at 636-734-7663

Also, volunteers are always welcome at the Thrift Stores. Conferences receive 800 credits for every hour of volunteer work.

21. Small Table Discussions

22. Andrew Kassebaum- Vincentian Formation: Andrew is working on spirituality for members. Members had roundtable discussions on various topics. Discussed building a sense of community, walking with the client. More round table discussions are planned at future meetings. The special programs such as the Bed program, the car program and the Bridges program have all been positive.

23. Matt Medina thanked Assumption for hosting meeting and the St. Louis Council for the meal

24. Next Meeting -St. Joseph's Cottleville Oct. 17, 2018

25. Closing Prayer – Matt Medina

There were 53 Vincentians present, represented by 14 conferences, 4 St. Louis Council members, and 1 Thrift Store Director