



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

MINUTES FOR NW DISTRICT MEETING APRIL 20, 2016

1. OPENING PRAYER was led by NWD Vice President, Lynda Atchison
2. SPIRITUAL READING
Carol Fogle shared information from the FamVin website comparing the lives of St. Vincent de Paul and Albert Schindler. Both men, when asked what they would have done differently, both said “more.”
3. TREASURER’S REPORT
Brother Kreikemeier reviewed the financial report. Copies of the report are available for the NW District Presidents. The Treasurer’s Report was approved as read.
4. SECRETARY’S REPORT
The October 14, 2015 meeting minutes were e-mailed and approved by Matt Medina and Amy Kortkamp.
5. RE-CAP OZANAM TRAINING/SPIRITUAL ADVISORS
*The last Ozanam Training session had 43 participants from the St. Louis and St Charles conferences. A list of the next sessions is included in the agenda for this meeting.
*Carol Fogle announced that a training session for new and current spiritual advisors will be held on May 28, 2016 at ICD (Immaculate Conception Dardenne), lower level of the parish center. Carol expressed the importance of this role in each conference.
*Steve Fogle shared the availability of two manuals from the national office for use by spiritual advisors. The books contain commissioning services for officers, members, as well as other information. Contact Gil Peters, at 314-576-3993, ext 210 or email at gpeters@svdpusa.org. Cost of the manuals is \$25.00 each.
* Steve asked for volunteers to be presenters at Ozanam training. All materials and PowerPoint presentations are available. He asked the presidents to ask for volunteers in their conferences. Theresa Waddington volunteered from her conference.
6. NW DISTRICT UTILITY COORDINATOR
Theresa Weber announced that the NW District Utility funds are available. Theresa distributed a packet with current forms to each president.

7. REPORT FROM KYLE CROW OF ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO MINI VINNIE'S
Kyle Crow reported on the various activities the 7th and 8th grade Mini Vinnie's. Activities include helping 2 times/month at the Salvation Army soup kitchen, help with Thanksgiving food baskets, prepare backpacks of food for needy kids, collect donations at Hardee's for Heat Up St. Louis, make care bags for Cardinal Glennon patients, help with recovery backpacks for people transitioning out of prison, and help with giving tree gifts at Christmas.
8. CAR REPORTS DUE
Lynda announced that 2nd quarter CAR Reports are due.
9. NW DISTRICT WEBSITE
Website address is www.northwestsvdpstl.org Christ Smith is webmaster.
10. HOMELESS PROJECT UPDATE
Lynda Atchison reported that since Oct 2015, 313 people were helped in the homeless project. However, as of April 29, 2016, the St. Francis Center is closing. Catholic Charities will remain open. Lynda would like to meet with those involved in the homeless project to re-group and discuss plans for the future.
11. SVDP SUNDAY, NOV 6
If conferences need signs and materials for SVDP Sunday, please contact Lynda.
12. ST. LOUIS COUNCIL UPDATES
*Dave Winslett reviewed the resources that are online regarding "Bridges out of Poverty" The website is <https://svdpstlouis.org/systematic-change-resources>
There is a one-time charge per year to stream the videos, which is paid by the National Council. Either conferences or individual Vincentians can stream videos paid for by the National Council. Members may also be able to access the online resources, links, and videos through the NW District website at www.northwestsvdpstl.org
*Steve Rupp introduced Thrift Store Director, John Walters, new Director of Vincentian Services, John Heithaus, and Program director, Tim Massey. Tim will be tweaking the new program intake forms with some of the recommended changes from conferences. Steve said new director of Communications, Ann Steffens will be working with the council and conferences to spread the word about what SVDP does in our communities. Please send her stories about how SVDP has had an impact in the community. New Council member, Ronda Nesser, is helping with the development of a new handbook to help with home visits
Steve discussed some plans as a result of the survey that went out recently. Most evident in the survey was the need for training. A team is being developed to help with training resources. An organizational chart was distributed depicting staff to work on training. This module will follow St. Vincent de Paul's goals of spirituality, friendship and service for members working with and for the poor.
* John Walters, Thrift Store Director, announced the opening of a new Thrift Store in St. Ann and the opening of the expanded store in St. Charles. The stores are growing had an increase in profits of 11%. Household item donations are needed. Conferences can check store credits by calling Mike Gribb at 881-6011. There was discussion regarding the bed programs

* New Director of Vincentian Services, John Heithaus asked for questions from the President's. There was discussion regarding twinning. According to the rules, no twinning is allowed with other organizations. He will check the wording in the rules to clarify the rules. He explained the role of Systemic change is to help people who feel isolated be part of the community. SVDP offers help that other organizations cannot

13. Lynda announced date for future meetings:

- a. Sept. 24, 2016 Walk for the Poor / Chris Smith
- b. Oct. 19, 2016 NW District Meeting /St. Patrick's Conference Host
- c. Nov 6, 2016 SVDP Sunday
- d. Mar. 11, 2017 Ozanam Training / St. Charles Borromeo

14. Lynda thanked St. Charles Borromeo for hosting the meeting.

15. CLOSING PRAYER was led by Lynda Atchison

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Doucette
NW District Secretary

Note: 13 Conferences were in attendance with 23 Vincentians present, and 5 members of the St. Louis Council. St. Peter, St. Patrick, St. Francis and St. Barnabas conferences were absent.