



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

MINUTES FOR NW DISTRICT MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2013

1. OPENING PRAYER was led by Father Robert Banken of St. Francis Parish.
2. SPIRITUAL READING was led by Monsignor James Callahan of St. Joseph's of Cottleville. Monsignor Callahan spoke about the 1300 people who came for help at the rectory where he was pastor in Rawlins, Wyoming. After some spiritual reflection and prayer, a SVDP Society was started to help the community. The community responded with open hearts. Monsignor Callahan said the experience taught him to be careful not to judge people who needed help.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT
Treasurer Greg Stark announced a balance of \$6,304.96.00 as of August, 2013. The NW District is limited to \$200.00 twinning at this time. Greg will be resigning his position as district treasurer. Greg was thanked for his diligence as district treasurer.
4. SECRETARY'S REPORT
The April 10, 2013 meeting minutes (Previously e-mailed) were approved by a voice vote.
5. ST. JOSEPH'S SVDP-OVERVIEW MIKE OLSEN
Mike Olsen spoke about St. Joseph's parish statistics. There are 5000 families (the largest in Missouri). The parish is diverse, with 2 large section 8 housing areas and million dollar homes. The parish is very generous, so there is no collection for SVDP each month. The pantry is restocked each Thanksgiving. The SVDP program has only 8-10 active members, but they are looking for more volunteers for the pantry and for SVDP. They have developed a new web-based program for client files. Mike offered to share the program with other conferences.
6. NEW NW DISTRICT SVDP CONFERENCE START UP AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OLD MONROE- STEVE FOGLE
Steve announced that Butch Henke is the President of the new conference. They have met for a few strategy sessions, with an October mini session planned to discuss home visits.

7. ST. LOUIS COUNCIL DAVE WINSLETT
 - A. Dave reported on a 3 day workshop attended by 100 people to discuss the first part of the Systematic Change. The topics included survival, relationships, entertainment, and poverty.
 - B. Dave attended the National meeting in Wisconsin. The SVDP Society is now in 149 countries, with Mongolia and Nepal as the newest countries. Since 1850's, SVDP has grown to 800,000 members with 30 million people helped by SVDP.
 - C. The issue of dues was settled at this meeting. The dues for our council have been raised from \$22,000.00 to \$44,000.00 rather than the estimated assessment of \$95,000.00. The council's will be invoiced, and then a decision on how conferences would contribute will come at a later date.

8. ST. LOUIS COUNCIL STEVE RUPP- RX PROGRAM, WALK FOR THE POOR, 9/28/13, UPCOMING EVENTS
 - A. Steve Rupp stated that the RX prescription program is available to SVDP clients. There are 190 generic drugs available free to qualified applicants. The District contributes to the program by covering the co pays. Call Steve for information.
 - B. The Walk for the Poor is scheduled for 9/28/13. Steve encouraged members to sign up for the walk.
 - C. Steve has information on Vinnie's Autos. The Northwest District is the number one district using this program.

9. ST. VINCENT DEPAUL THRIFT STORES, JERRY ORZANO- INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW STORE MANAGER IN ST CHARLES
 - A. Jerry announced that the new store manager in St. Charles is Laney Stout.
 - B. Jerry asked members to spread the word about the thrift stores. He stated that the stores can advertise for Parish events.
 - C. Jerry spoke about importance of clothing drives in parishes. The clothing is sold in stores or recycled. In turn, conferences can use accumulated credits for use in the stores by their clients. Matt Medina will forward the procedure regarding the clothing drive used in St. Charles Borromeo parish.
 - D. Jerry also asked that announcement be placed in bulletins regarding the Thrift Stores.

10. BREAK

11. TREASURER'S POSITION NW DISTRICT- MATT MEDINA

Matt Medina announced that Brother Raphael Kreikemeier of ICD, has accepted the position of NW District Treasurer.

12. EIN NUMBERS CHANGES 2013 501-3C -MATT MEDINA

Changes for EIN numbers are due by September 30, 2013

13. ANNUAL AUDITS AND NATIONAL DATABASE UPDATES-MATT MEDINA

Matt announced that all conferences have completed their audits with the exception of one.

14. WALK FOR THE POOR 9-28-13

One hundred people have signed up for the Walk for the Poor, with 12 conferences participating.

15. JOBS FOR LIFE-OASIS ST. CHARLES COUNTY CONTACT: BOB SCHREIBER
BOARD MEMBER - shribe2@sbcglobal.net 636-441-3981

There are approximately 40 churches in St. Charles County associated with Oasis who work with the Jobs for Life Program. It is a 12 week program where clients meet 2 times a week to learn job seeking skills, write a resume, etc. The program provides mentors, child care and transportation for the people in the program. Any Conference in St. Charles County are encouraged to use this resource for jobs and education.

16. NW DISTRICT WEBSITE- www.northwestsvdpstl.org NEW WEBMASTER- CHRIS SMITH – chrispysmith@hotmail.com Phone 314-616-6476

The new webmaster for the Northwest District is Chris Smith of ICD conference. Chris asked members to contact him with any questions or if conferences need an item added on the website. Again, each Conference is encouraged to update the data in the NW District Website pertaining to their Conferences. Chris Smith is the contact and will be the person actually loading the information into the website.

17. NW DISTRICT HOMELESS PROJECT-LYNDA ATCHISON

- A. Lynda Atchison presented the Homeless Project for possible implementation in January 2014. Five conferences met to discuss the Vision, Approach, Protocol, Participation plan by conferences, and a participation form to be completed by conferences.
- B. The plan is for the district to become united in services, so there is no duplication of services within the district when working with homeless clients. A coordinator will manage a centralized database and the homeless program to keep track of the services for the homeless in the NW District.
- C. Conferences may not be able to financially support the program, but are asked to keep the project and the homeless families in their prayers. Some conferences may be able to support with home visits hotel/motel costs, food pantry items, or other items of need.
- D. A plan may be developed for the clients to help with jobs, housing, and life skills.
- E. A standardized form, training, and resources will be available for conferences participating in the program.
- F. A copy of the power point presentation is attached to these minutes.
- G. There was a sign up/ participation form handed out to each Conference in attendance at this meeting. Everyone is requested to confer with their individual Conferences and return the forms no later than 11-15-13.

18. NEXT MEETING-APRIL 16, 2014 HOSTED BY IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
DARDENNE

19. THANKS TO ST. JOSEPH'S FOR HOSTING THE MEETING

20. CLOSING PRAYER-FATHER BANKEN

NOTES:

1. 13 Conferences were in attendance with 42 Vincentians present. All Saints and St. Barnabas conferences were absent.