

Saint Vincent de Paul  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 14, 2024

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

**Gemma, president** – commenced meeting at 1 pm followed by Debbie with SVdP opening prayer.

**Pat and Jeff Snyder – home visit presentation**

**Client #1**, 42 yrs, parent of five, four live with client, ages 4, 10 and two 17 year olds (one teen is autistic), has lived at Hopes Crossing for eight years. Worked for Amazon, injured hand on the job, received workers compensation of \$1371.56 per month which ended in May 2024. Other income at the time was \$560 in SSDI for autistic son and \$52 in child support from the father (disabled) of three of the children. SSDI was canceled because of client's income but it is being appealed (SSDI is for the autistic teen). Client diagnosed with CRPS – nerve damage, treatments have not worked, has lawyer to sue Amazon for longer term disability.

Current income = \$3,153 (\$329 food stamps, \$52 child support, net employment income \$2,772), expenses = \$1937, net = \$1,216. Older child pays for cell phones, cable, and car insurance. Client makes use of food pantry and helping hands. Rent increase of 200 effective October 1 – if not paid in 10 days, fee of \$50 plus possible eviction. Hopes Crossing will no longer be low income housing. Client obtained new job (Heart to Heart – cooks for disable adults, \$19.20 per hour, 40 hour work week, obtained job in August but unable to start until October-needed fingerprints, orientation, etc.) will not be paid until the end of October.

Client has come to SVdP in the past (2023 approved \$2025 rent, 2024 approved \$1,000 for car), now another request of \$1,762 rent. Board very uneasy about this approval. Gemma contacted St. Joe's and they may be willing to twin at \$900. Gemma will also contact the Hope Center for assistance with client's rent. **Board will approve the \$1,762 if no other assistance is provided.** However, Gemma will advise client that can not come back to our SVdP or any other SVdP for a long time. Gemma will notify other SVdP presidents of this situation. Client has approached other SVdPs in the past.

**Client payment approved at this meeting – potential of \$1,762.**

**Sharon Bianchi, treasurer**

Check from Farro's Tees = \$88.84, thank you, Farro's!  
Deposit from the Magic show = \$750  
Current checking account balance = \$22,759  
Boscov fundraiser = \$1720 total raised to date

**Mary Schwarz, food pantry coordinator**

Still waiting response from cleaning service. Board members will provide Mary with names of cleaning services used by residents at Renaissance and Greenbriar.

Fiscal results – individuals served = 9,166, (5,949 adults, 3217 children, 2,658 families). Prior fiscal year 7,607 individuals were served. That is an additional 1,559 individuals.

Turkey donations - 100 to be delivered on October 28 and another 100 on November 11 (from Fulfill). Requesting thanksgiving food donations. Thank you to Kathleen Muzzio for flocknote to parishioners on needs of the food pantry and bulletin information for SVdP.

Bills for the pantry from John Connelly - \$136.98 (storage bags) and \$1430 (coffee, laundry detergent, toothpaste, soap, etc.) Should last for two months.

Will pull back on guests coming more than once a month for food. Fulfill is ok with that. Food pantry will provide guests will list of other food pantries in Ocean County.

### **Gen Yachnik, helping hands**

Fiscal results (minus the month of September as HH was closed) – individuals served = 4,319 (2,337 adults, 1,982 children, 1,177 families) with 15,768 items for an in-kind donation of \$15,768.

Members have stepped forward to assist packing up the Parish Center closet after 1 pm.

Many donations are of good quality and new.

Good counsel was provided with six bags of children's clothing – newborn to 12 months.

Parish office advised caller that HH will accept donations up to 1 pm. Incorrect. Donations will be accepted up to 11am on Mondays and Fridays. Please advise your staff. Gen to provide the parish office staff with print out of donation times as well as HH hours (not the same as the food pantry).

### **Meg Otchy, garden coordinator**

Matt MacCarrick and Charlie Yannelli – began to replace beds.

Contacted Fulfill regarding replacement of hoses.

Planted garlic – 350 potential bulbs to be produced. Way to go Meg!!

### **Kathy Minton, technology coordinator**

Family Fun Night, Oct 11 – great event – fun night for kids and adults!!

Tickets sold = 150, received \$90 in donations that night. Income = \$2,355, expenses \$1,155 (includes payment to the entertainers), net to SVdP = \$1,200. In kind donations of \$180 (water, raffle gifts, candy).

New member, Chris, will assist Kathy with technology needs.

### **Barbara Neary, fundraising coordinator**

Will take over the paver sales.

Possible Mardi Gras fundraiser on February 28 – in lieu of money, participants will be asked to bring items for the food pantry. Need to develop further and obtain Fr. Michael's approval.

Paul Capelli – considering possible golf event in the summer. MUST have numerous SVdP members who are willing to run this event with Paul and obtain major sponsors for the holes, etc. The success of the event is in the dollars provided by the sponsors.

**Board Discussion** – need to look at the fundraisers we have from a cost /benefit perspective. For example – Magic Show fundraiser worked on for about one year – fun time, not as many participants as hoped for but still good turnout. A lot of work for \$1200 which lately covers the request of about one/two clients. Client needs in the past ranged around \$300 - \$500. Now requests are over \$1000. With a pending capital campaign for the church roof, parishioner donations may lessen. So either have larger profit fundraisers or may have to reduce the amount SVdP can approve for requests. Make sure clients are first using and being referred to social agencies.

### **Paul Capelli, furniture coordinator**

Furniture was delivered to client #2, client very happy. Client #3 delivery should be October 18, also some assistance to Our Lady of Guadeloupe.

**Susan DeMillio, toy drive coordinator (Gemma reported for Susan)**

Very successful to date, committee has developed all signs in English and Spanish, very well organized.

Will now need assistance with wrapping gifts for the nursing homes (from the parish Giving Tree). Has requested additional help for signing up children for gifts, wrapping, etc.

**Jill Bradley, secretary**

All prior minutes are up to date and have been approved by board. Pending placement on the website.

Working with Linda P. to update the current ministry placement list. Hope to have up to date list sent to all board members and coordinators by October 25. Please advise Jill of ministry needs – do you need more volunteers for your ministry. We will steer new members in the direction of the SVdP needs.

**Gemma:**

Will send note to all members for assistance with Susan's toy drive needs.

Will contact Elaine regarding the \$5,000 donation to be used for the garden. Elaine would like a paver and a bench for her donation. No problem!

County meeting is November 13. Advise Gemma if you are attending.

Will lessen the number of general meetings – probably quarterly. No general meeting for October /November. Next meeting will be December 13!

Met with Fr. Michael – we will receive the Ash Wednesday collections.

**Gemma:** adjourned meeting at 3:30 pm followed by Debbie with closing SVdP prayer. Please pray for Aiden (Gemma's grandson), Declan – 10 year old, Wendy, Nancy, Walt, and all other members needs

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Bradley, secretary