

St. Vincent de Paul
Board Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2024

Present: Gemma Brennan, Sharon Bianchi, Jill Bradley, Joe Damato, Kathy Minton, Barbara Neary, Meg Otchy, Mary Schwarz, Debbie Weingroff, Gen Yachnik

Absent: none

Gemma, president: commenced meeting at 1:10 pm followed by Debbie with SVdP prayer.

Debbie, spiritual advisor:

Provided information on new CONTACT program (Reassurance Calling Program for Senior Wellness Check-Ins) as a resource for guests/members. The service provides 1. Friendly Socialization – a phone chat to reduce isolation and brighten someone’s day, 2. Wellness Checks – a safety check offering peace of mind to seniors and their families. To enroll, please call CONTACT at 732-966-9330.

CONTACT is an Ocean & Monmouth counties non-profit organization providing trained telephone listeners who respond to human needs 24/7. It offers free confidential crisis intervention, information on available resources, and referral to community services. Crisis Hotline: 732-240-6100.

Deb will provide reflection for the upcoming general meeting.

Discussed how to handle disgruntled guests.

Suggested having the Toms River Chief of Police attend one of the general meetings to review what to do in case of an irate/disgruntled guest.

Jill, secretary:

Ministry update – total SVdP members as of today = 110 with 105 participating in ministries. Of the 105, 58 are involved in two or more ministries. Of the current five not involved in ministries, four have been contacted and are now going to participate. Eight potential members are completing requirements needed to become active members.

An updated ministry list will be sent to all board members and coordinators by July 1 – then quarterly, unless needed on a more frequent basis.

Per Joe Damato's request, Jill will send the list of items that helping hands can not accept to Michelle Jones, coordinator for intake staff. Ask Michelle to distribute to her staff.

Sharon, treasurer:

Current bank balance = \$32,197.15. Weekend mass donations = \$294. Per Gemma, that is the lowest amount of donations in a long time.

Financial payments approved at this meeting: \$1,160.78 (\$200 Pastor Rhett for homeless guests, \$147.37 helping hands, \$813.41 food pantry). See below comments. No individual guest approvals.

Gil Kerrigan, home visit presentation:

Client #1, 32 years old, 12 year child, lives in Eagle Crest Apartments, rent = \$1900. Client works weekly at a Complete Care facility and is an Uber driver on the weekends. Had COVID and was out of work for three weeks. Total income = \$3210 (\$200 from client’s mom, \$1200 Uber, \$1810 Complete Care), expenses = \$3419, net = negative (\$209). Client is in arrears in many areas, rent, gas, electric – looks like gas and electric have not been paid for many, many months.

Client is **requesting payment of rent \$1900. Board denied at this point.** Need more information on: any child care income, why so behind on the utilities, how able to stay in the apartment

with a negative net income, what is rental history, credit card history. Client needs to reach out to social agencies first (Section 8 housing and others that Gil provided) before SVdP considers any assistance. Gil will discuss further with client.

Joe Damato, client request:

Former client, **Client #2**, requesting assistance with medical bill (Community Medical Center) \$2,000, electric \$27.27, and gas \$373. Past board approvals – 5/13/2024 (\$243.46 electric), 12/01/23 (\$292.98 gas), 7/21/23 (\$67.07 gas). Client has colon cancer and has to go back into hospital for surgery. Client's health is failing and living in dilapidated trailer at Friendly Village. Client has renter. Joe will look into this further and determine if renter is helping with payments and if other social agencies could assist client including Habcore. Hospital might be able to take on their bill as a charity case.

Gemma - potential home visit/ follow up on prior request

Client #3, Redeem-Her House, car repair request. Client works full time for Target. Client needs to go through the normal procedures - phone call to Intake, etc.

Client #4 update – Frank and Greg putting up the ceiling for client.

Kathy, technology coordinator: [website – svdpstluke.org](http://svdpstluke.org).

Home visitor forms completed and available in the conference room.

New folder available in conference room or home visitor section on website (svdpstluke.org/forms).

IRS W-9 letter to landlord and form available when needed.

Farro's SVdP apparel still available with 20 % discount until July 8.

Magic Show – working on ticket sale dates for parish and CCD.

Nominating Committee – will present procedures at June general meeting. At August 23 general meeting, nominees will present their qualifications, vote will be taken (secret ballot) and then winner announced.

Name tags – now available on the website so ministry coordinators can make name tags for new members. Kathy to purchase new lanyards and plastic covers.

Barbara, fundraising coordinator:

Reviewed Tuckerton Seaport trip – payment is cash only to Barbara.

Save the date – October 11 – Magic Show.

Boscov's fundraiser – still waiting for delivery of the Boscov's coupons.

Mary, food pantry coordinator:

Volunteer situation-still in need of substitutes (new members now working for Food Pantry, Studenko, L., McMahon, A., Ferrante, A). Jill discussed food pantry with Pam Streisel, she is interested, and Jill forward info to Mary. Judy Gibson also interested but needs update of FPrints and V – from St. Aloysius. Jill will contact Linda P to discuss the requirement status for Judy.

Bills totaling \$813.41 for food pantry needs (detergent, etc.).

Gen, helping hands:

Bills submitted for reimbursement to Christine Cotgreave for needed purchases for helping hands = \$147.37 (for children's hangers, shoe racks, clothing tags).

Reviewed last week's staff meeting and provided meeting minutes to board members.

Potential new member, Green, D. – to meet with Christine over the next week or so.

Gemma – suggests providing list of items that HH can not accept to the front desk staff of the

food pantry – Gen/Mary to provide.

Financial Assistance as of this meeting – no payment to clients, \$813.41 reimbursement for food pantry expenses, \$147.37 reimbursement for helping hands expenses.

Meg, garden coordinator:

Member, Brenda Conni – now assisting the garden.

Gemma:

CCFD – is June 27, BBQ. Cost to SVdP is \$120 to rent grills (split half with CCFD).

Pastor Rhetta, True Vine ministries, requested assistance with purchase of cot covers for the warming and cooling house. Board approved up to \$200 for the purchase of these cots covers. Gemma will proceed with purchase.

Assistance needed – to sell raffle tickets for the Homeless Housing Coalition at Friday's general meeting (Meg volunteered) and the weekend masses (Barbara Neary and Debbie Weingroff for the 4 pm Mass, and Gemma and Gen for the 10 am Mass).

Assistance needed at the general meeting: serve food, help inside and help outside – let Annette Avera and Mary Jo Phillips know if you can help.

Gemma adjourned meeting at 3:45 pm followed by SVdP prayer with Debbie. Pray particularly for Archie, Peter Juras, and Fr. Michael.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Bradley, Secretary