

Minutes

Society of St Vincent de Paul, St Thomas Aquinas Conference

Meeting of May 4, 2017

Members present: Bill Hubbs, Tom Quinn, Tony Morreale, Chris Countryman, Janice Klein, Bob White, Millie Brady, Phil Brady

1). Opening Prayer/Spiritual Reflection

Millie Brady opened with readings focused on the importance of and Christian values regarding access to health care for all

2). Presidents Announcements

Tom and Cindy Brown were invited to meet with the STA parish council finance committee on Saturday, April 29 to provide updates on the STA SVdP conference and Boulevard Place Pantry activities. Committee members are interested in how they may be able to assist with the missions of these entities, including increasing the awareness of both to all parishioners and helping to increase the number of volunteers.

The Mission 27 Saturday referral desk hours for SVdP clients have been changed from 10:00–4:00 to 9:00–12:00. The new Saturday hours are due to a shortage of desk volunteers on Saturday afternoons and congestion in the afternoon when SVdP collection trucks unload donated items

The SVdP national council is establishing a mentoring program to match former council presidents and executive directors with new presidents and directors so that the new leaders can be successful and promote the development of excellence in fulfilling the mission of SVdP.

The SVdP national council has issued an appeal for donations to SVDP USA Domestic Disaster Fund, which provides direct support to Vincentians for disaster relief efforts.

3). Treasurer's Report

The beginning balance in the SVdP account as of May 1 was \$6,041.12

No income was reported during the month of April

\$761.10 was distributed in April for client rent and utilities

\$183.56 was spent for St Lawrence Changing Lives Forever program meals

\$287.81 was spent for STA Easter Baskets

Total expenses for April totaled \$1,232.47

The ending balance in the SVdP account as of May 1 was \$4,808.65

A “thank you” was expressed to Cindy Brown and the Boulevard Place pantry for their generous contribution of most of the food items for the Easter Baskets, which allowed for a minor cash outlay from our SVdP account.

4). Client Support Update and Discussion

6 adults and 3 children received assistance in April. Most were repeat clients; one was a new client. Janice reported that the number of requests for assistance continues to be low.

5). Other Reports

For the last several months the SVdP conference has carried a healthy balance in our bank account, primarily due to a decrease in requests for rent and utility assistance. It is the policy of SVDP not to carry a large balance; rather funds should be spent as received to assist those in need. Members discussed opportunities for distributing some of our reserve funds, including the purchase of additional grocery gift cards and bus passes for distribution during home visits, additional support for the main SVdP pantry, Boulevard Place pantry, Cathedral Soup Kitchen, and our SVdP Twinning parish in the Dominican Republic, donations for the purchase of beds for clients or a donation to the national disaster relief fund. After discussion, it was decided to immediately purchase an additional \$1,500.00 in grocery gift cards from Kroger and Meijer, and if funds continue to be available in our account, to approve additional disbursements to the above list at our June meeting.

6). Collection for Pantry

Completed

7). Closing Prayer

Completed

Next Meeting: Thursday June 1 in the Bethany room

