

## **ST VINCENT DE PAUL – DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 8/06/2024**

- Dan Miller (President) called the meeting to order at 6pm, August 6, 2024 at the Sts. Mary & John parish in Rager Hall
- **In Attendance:** Executive Board Members: Dan Miller (President), Jeff Kropfl (Vice President), Melanie Seibert (Treasurer), Sr Doris Clippard (Spiritual Director), Joe Cook (Executive Director), Noah Werner (Dir Of Case Management), and Mike McKee (Thrift Store Advisory Chair)
- **PRAYER / REFLECTION:** The meeting was opened with prayer and a reflection led by Sr Doris
- **Review Of Rule:** Dan Miller read Rule 3.9 which has to do with the Society's concept of embracing the Principal of Subsidiarity.
- **MINUTES:** Minutes from the previous DC meeting on 7/2/2024 were reviewed and approved
- **Treasurer's Report / Financials:** The District Council financial summary for the month and YTD June 2024 were presented by Melanie Seibert.
- Melanie reviewed a high-level summary financials for all three special entities (District Council, Food Pantry, and Thrift Store). June 2024 Food Pantry net receipts was a loss of (17,962) vs prior year June 2023 was a profit of 25,453. The main reason for the year over year change for June was in Jun23 there was a large gift/donation and this year's donation's were low compared to recent averages. Melanie also pointed out that at the Thrift Store, Jun24 receipts (44,100) were down -21% compared to Jun23 receipts (\$55,717) probably due to the construction on Walnut Street was right in front of our building for a good bit of the month impacting traffic.
- **Centerpoint Online Access Screen for SVDP to inquire on bill & input pledges:** A lot of discussion on the new CenterPoint system we go into to make pledges on behalf of clients. Jared Wells (CenterPoint representative) has offered to provide a formal training session on the new system we could have members participate in.
- **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Joe Cook gave updates on many important topics
  - Thrift Store Manager Change – As mentioned at prior month meeting that we'd be bringing on a new Thrift Store manager, Maggie Harrison has taken over role since last meeting and is present at this meeting and will give an update in a bit on the store
  - Food Pantry Manager Search – Sister Donna has notified the E.D. of her impending retirement from the Food Pantry in Q2-2025, and we need to identify a replacement for her in the coming months.
  - Food pantry assistant manager – with the change in leadership, we may need to rethink how we man/run Food Pantry and this will include bringing on assistant manager at Food Pantry.
  - Food Pantry Advisory Chair resignation – Carolyn Harmon has resigned from her volunteer position as Food Pantry Advisory Chair. We need someone to step up and take on this role.
  - Friends of the Poor (FOP) – Joe Cook gave update on FOP progress. He shared that the sponsorship level is down rather significantly compared to where we stood last year at this time on the 2023 FOP walk. (last year we had 6 primary sponsors and this year we have 3 primary sponsors).
  - Charity Tracker Ongoing Training – St John the Evangelist is having Joe out in July to provide a refresher training on Charity Tracker for conference members. If any other conferences want a similar refresher training for their members just contact Joe Cook.

- Thrift Store Employee positions, processes, policy, and procedure review: Haven't been able to get this off the ground since the last meeting but will be starting by reviewing the Thrift Store employee handbook with the Thrift Store Manager next week.
- RICE BOWL - Friday Knights along with Regent Promotions. Game is Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at the Reitz Bowl. Kickoff is at 6:30 p.m. This is an area Knights of Columbus Councils' fundraiser to benefit the SVdP Food Pantry. Last year's event raised almost \$30,000, or 20% of last year's amount spent on food purchases. The seven-year total is just shy of \$95,000. Over 31% of the overall total was raised last year alone.
- Getting Ahead – Noah Werner provided update on Getting Ahead. We completed our 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort and graduation was on 7/10/2024. The next cohort begins 9/11/2024.
- Micro Loan – Noah Werner provided update on Micro Loan program. Next Micro Loan committee meeting is 8/12/2024, and they're always looking to add committee members to assist in the leadership team if anyone is interested in being involved.
- **STORE REPORT** – Maggie Harrison provided an update on the Thrift Store and her first 3-4 weeks there..
- Mike McKee gave a full store update on store activity and metrics for the prior month.
- **FOOD PANTRY REPORT:**
- Sister Donna provided a food pantry update. She noted that all the Food Pantry will be closed on 9/2/2024 (Labor Day)
- **ONGOING BUSINESS:**
  - Resolution 2024.2 Budget for 2024-25 - The Treasurer presented a "second draft" of the 2024-2025 budget financials for the District Council, the Food Pantry, and the Thrift Store. Over the next 30-60 days we will have to finalize the budget for the following fiscal year which begins on 10/1/2024. Melanie asked Presidents to review the information with their respective conferences and bring any questions to the next DC meeting on 9/3/2024.
  - Resolution 2024.1 Conference Financial and Accountability Review – Dan Miller updated meeting members on this topic. The subcommittee on this will be meeting during August before next meeting. Ginger from St John Daylight Conference is going to try and run through the Financial and Accountability Review Questionnaire as a test run and provide feedback on where difficulties are encountered and that might provide input on if/how the questionnaire might be refined.
  - DC Secretary – Position is still open. We need the conferences to help us find someone to step into this role at the District level.
  - Thrift Store Expansion/Addition – Joe gave update on past 30 days, and expects subcommittee to meet between now and next meeting.
  - A/C Coil Replacement On Roof of Food Pantry Replacement – Joe Cook reviewed the three quotations provided for fixing the A/C unit on Food Pantry. Questions were asked by various present District Council members. Finally a motion was made and passed to approve having Midwest Roof replace existing unit [They were the original installer of the unit ~ 15 years ago].
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - Need for a Food Pantry Chairman
  - Quarterly Gathering: Is now set for 9/29/2024 (this has changed since last meeting).

- **Large Group Discussion – District conference visioning – The Home Visit:** Joe Cook facilitated a discussion around could we lessen the load on certain conferences who have a high level of calls every month by somehow enlisting members of other conferences to be a part of servicing the clients of the high volume conferences. There is still additional work to be done on this.
- **ROLL CALL TAKEN:** Absent this month were Young Adult Conference, St Fr and Wendel, St Matthew, St Mary & John
- **Next Meeting:** Tuesday 9/3/2024 – meeting was adjourned with prayer