

St. Vincent de Paul Board Meeting
September 5, 2019

Present: Richard Arndt, Michael Bowe, Mary Dutton, Debbie Moodie, Michael Nicolosi, Jane Scroggins and Al Seitter.

The meeting was opened by praying the “Hail Mary”.

Community Action Food & Shelter Grant. Mike Bowe reported the grant for \$1,500.00 has been approved and \$750.00 has been received.

Marathon Oil Gas Cards. Mike B. reported there is no new information on this project to provide gas cards to clients to purchase gas only when they have a job interview or doctor appointment. The usual amount for a card is \$20.00. Another call will be made to Marathon. It was also suggested that Speedway be contacted as they have a card that is a gas-only card.

Computers. Al reported the computers have been purchased and ready to install. There is one item that has not been received. Two backup USB flash drives have been purchased—one is silver and the other is black to be used on alternate days for backups. Backups are set for 1:00 A.M. The flash drives cost \$35.00 each. Mary will have the backups. Libre Office has been purchased for the system. Both Al and Jane suggested switching to Spectrum for the internet service.

Menards. Mike has no further information on the possibility of a no waste program with Menards. He will continue to work on this project.

Food Pantry. In the past few months, the food pantry has been unable to purchase cereal from Mid-Ohio. For September, Judy Bowe was able to purchase 100 cases of two kinds of cereal at no charge. During the shortage, Mike B. was able to purchase five cases from Aldi.

Parking Sign. Mike B. reported the parking sign is up in the unpaved lot which states the lot is for customers of St. Vincent only and others will be towed. If Mary notices a new car parking in this lot, she will put a note on the car giving them notice. If they continue to park in the lot, they will be towed at their expense. She has had to have some cars towed.

Bridges Out of Poverty Seminar. Mike B. reported that eight members from St. Vincent de Paul attended this seminar. Al had some concern regarding the 30-day wait between appointments and how the information was passed to the clients. Basically, clients can use the pantry once a month after 30 days has passed from their last appointment. For example, if a person uses the pantry on October 1, they would be eligible on November 1 (unless it falls on a Sunday or Monday and would then be scheduled on Tuesday). Mary advised the Board that if a client is a no show three months in a row, their next appointment will be delayed two weeks from their date of eligibility.

Mary asked the Board about defining what services we will or will not provide. This would help communicate to the public what services are available at our agency and helpful to volunteers (especially those answering the phones) so they can refer people to the proper agency when the need arises. This would also help at the Rectory when people come there for assistance and are usually referred to St. Vincent. It was decided that Mary and Jane would work on this project. Once a list is completed, a copy will be given to the Rectory.

Bathroom Improvements. Mike advised the Board that both bathrooms have new sinks and vanities.

Future Projects. Al brought up the question of cost on a pole building if there was to be future discussion on expansion. It was decided that a special meeting would be held to discuss this. Mike B. will get in touch with members regarding the scheduling of this meeting.

Mary requested that a small portion of the sales floor be set up to meet privately with clients. This would be partitioned off and give a little bit of privacy for the clients and a safe place for Mary so she would not be isolated if a situation got out of hand. Also, Jane suggested that a security system be in place at some point in the future.

Mary also read an article in “The Catholic Times” regarding “Bottoms Up” which is an organization which distributes more than 14,000 diapers a month to 21 food pantries and child care centers in central Ohio. Mike B. will check into this further.

Food Pantry. Mary reported that the ice cream/BBQ social for the parish and volunteers is a go. Board members will serve the sandwiches and ice cream. Mike Nicolosi is taking care of supplies and barbecuing the pork. The plan is to cook for around 150 – 175 people.

Mary reported that Pat Baldinger will be having knee surgery sometime in the future.

Mary reported that 986 families were served in August and 29 were new families.

Treasurer Report. Jane reported sales have been up in the thrift shop. There is \$20,636.75 in the checking, \$25,000.00 in two CDs, and \$17,000.00 in the Parish Aid Fund.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2019.

The meeting ended by praying the “Glory Be”.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Moodie, Recording Secretary