

St. Perpetua Outreach Committee

Meeting Minutes October 4, 2022

Members Present: Melly Narkiewicz (Chair), Ann Diemer (Treasurer/Recorder), Dee Dee Hansen , Carol Weyer, Sandi Gritzer, Marj Ho, Pat Snyder, Mary Terjeson, Crystal D'Amato, Kim Anderson (St. P's Faith Formation guest speaker)

Welcome and Prayer: Melly welcomed everyone and led an opening prayer thanking the Lord for our blessings including the people around us whom make life more meaningful.

Visitors: Kim Anderson from Faith Formation joined us for the first part of the meeting to explore opportunities for synergy between Faith Formation activities and Outreach activities. In general, she could sometimes use additional funding for items the participants don't donate and she can also use help at Family Nights to supervise activities. The first Family Night will be October 23rd and will focus on All Saints and All Souls Days. Kim has a number of activities planned including making homemade "Linus" blankets and bags of dog food for the homeless who have dogs. She could use some help with funding the materials for making 4-5 blankets and will get back to Mary with a \$ amount. In December she is planning an activity to make Birthday Kits for Hope Solutions. She could use some help funding the bags to hold the Birthday Kit supplies. Kim will get back to Mary with the number and size of bags. The Committee agreed to authorize up to \$100 - \$150 to help Kim with purchasing supplies for the Linus blankets and Birthday Kits. Mary Terjeson will coordinate with Kim.

Correspondence and Agency Updates:

- Monument Crisis Center also does Birthday Bags and there was a little confusion about whether Kim was intending to work with Monument or Hope Solutions. Mary will clarify with Kim and if it is not Monument this time, we will consider working with them on a future Birthday Bag project.
- The discussion of "Agency of the Month" was tabled until January.
- Melly updated the liaisons; Mary, Sandi and Ann are now trained to update the Virtual Bulletin Board and Mary will be taking the first stint. So send future items for the Virtual Bulletin Board to Mary Terjeson.
- Mary reminded the Committee to update their agency profiles in the next couple of months. Several liaisons have had difficulty getting return emails from their agencies and will continue pursuing.

Financial Report:

Ann reviewed the Financial Report. We took in \$2363 in May and had several expenses that hit the books after our last meeting, so our current balance is \$2028. Those May trailing expenses were \$203 for the May Shelter dinner, \$568 for CCIC cleaning kits and \$134 for the Faith Formation Spring baskets. Ann recommended making three donations of \$500 each and leaving a balance of \$528 for Shelter dinner and other miscellaneous items. The next three agencies on our list are: Foster Family Network, Hope Conference and Loaves and Fishes. We would skip over Friendly Manor as their operation is still on hold.

Food Drives:

- Dee Dee reported that the September 22nd food drive for St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry was very successful. The food pantry was very grateful for the groceries. Dee Dee again remarked on how organized they are and how thoughtful and caring. She said they do not mind receiving miscellaneous treats that are not on their list, but can be included in a families request as little surprises for the children. We received a thank you card signed by the president and helpers.
- The next food drive for Monument Crisis Center is scheduled for October 23rd from 1:00 to 1:30 pm. Sandi and Todd Gritzer will be there. Mary can help if needed. Ann Diemer also hopes to be available.
- The group discussed the potential dates for the December Food Drive. Typically the bags are handed out on the weekend after Thanksgiving. Then the food drives have usually been done the following two weekends in December. However, we could also do them the 2nd and 3rd weekend, if that is better for the agencies (St Vincent de Paul and Monument Crisis). It was agreed that the first two weekends in December are probably best, but DeeDee and Sandi will contact the agencies to confirm.

Other Activities and Items

- Blue Barrel - We Care Services had a fire, which destroyed much of their materials for working with children in need. They have a list of items, such as crafts, dolls, cars/trucks/trains and pretend play items that they could use as soon as possible. It was agreed to do a Blue Barrel collection for We Care on November 12th & 13th, prior to Thanksgiving. Sandi will publicize in TP and Carol volunteered to do a flyer to be handed out at Masses.
- Women's Ministry Synergy - The Diaper drive that Crystal coordinated with the Women's Ministry was a success with about 1000 collected and to be distributed to Foster Families Network, Options Women and Bay Area Crisis Nursery. Ann Diemer and Marj Ho will pick up diapers from Crystal and deliver to the agencies.
- Shoes that Fit – Marj updated the group that she had been in touch with both schools, but it typically takes a month or two after school starts for the program to get up and running again. She will contact the school's again before our next meeting for a status update. Marj did speak to Father Jimmy to explain the program to him.
- Share the Warmth – Karen is planning the annual drive to collect warm clothing and blankets on October 15th & 16th. She could use help sorting on Sunday the 16th from 10 am to 2 pm. Unfortunately there was little availability on the Committee. Everyone will check their calendars.
- Winter Nights – The parking lot program is now a year round program. Karen Kalvass is interested in doing a monthly bag lunch program for the parking lot residents to replace the one she was doing for Friendly Manor. The Committee was generally supportive and will wait to hear from Karen if she still wishes to pursue.
- Shelter Dinners – The next dinner is scheduled for Sunday October 9th. Transporters and chefs are in place. The dinners are scheduled for the second Sunday of each month. We are still unable to serve, but the dinners continue to be much appreciated.

Communications and Publicity

- As usual, Sandi has everything in order!

Closing Prayer: We ended the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be November 8th at 7:00 pm. via Zoom

Rotating Chair: Melly Narkiewicz (last meeting ☹) Recorder: Sandi Gritzer