

St. Mary's Christian Service Commission Minutes

June 26, 2018

Members present: Lorie Bronson, John Castiglione, Fred Federowicz, Barb Griffith, Connie Janus, and Maria Liparoto, Stephanie Sconochia, and Jennifer St. Bernard.

OPENINGS:

I. Opening Prayer:

- Fred led the members with the opening prayer.

II. Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes were accepted as written

III. Spiritual Enrichment –

- Lorie distributed the paper 'Catholic Social Teaching on Immigration and the Movement of Peoples'
- The group began discussing the questions and activities for parishes.
- Members are asked to prepare to discuss the questions on the attached article, highlighted in yellow.

Action Items

Person Responsible

- Be prepared to discuss questions from the attached article All Members

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Parish Goals

- We continued our discussion and reviewed our goals & objectives. Following is our work in progress:

Action Item

Persons Responsible

Develop a list of parishioners to contact for greeters Jennifer & Connie

Goal 1. Call all people to an active life in the parish.

Obj. #1) Invite and secure a commitment to be greeters at mass from 5 families by October 31.

- (We have a commitment from 7 or 8 people thus far)
- Contact the Worship Commission to see about organizing a Greeters ministry formation with help from the AOD.
- Fred said the Hispanic Ministry have greeters
- It was suggested that the families of the ushers might be greeters
- Put the Greeters Ministry information on the front page of the Chronicle with pictures of the current greeters

Obj. #2) Write and publish monthly in the Chronicle and on Facebook, a summary of various Christian Service Ministries to educate, invite and encourage participation.

- (We developed a yearly calendar assigning each ministry to a specific month. See list at the end of report.)

Goal 2. Create engaging faith formation opportunities for parishioners of all ages.

Obj. #1) Offer spiritual renewal/enrichment at every gathering. (prayer, scripture, music, guided reflection/meditation.)

- We need to be conscious of this for other meetings we attend

Goal 3. Reach out as a visible and welcoming presence in the community

Obj. #1) ~~To assemble, offer and encourage participation of at least 10 people to participate in the fair parade each year.~~

Amended to read: We will distribute a sign-up sheet to the various parish ministries, asking them to participate in the fair parade, by the end of April 2018

- Barb reported that she has commitments from several families in Faith Formation.

Obj. #2) ~~To form a team of at least 4 people to participate in the annual Bed Race for the Children's Bed Ministry at the Presbyterian Church in 2018~~

Amended to read: We will distribute a sign-up sheet to the various parish ministries, asking them to participate in the annual Bed Race for the Children's Bed Ministry at the Presbyterian Church in the fall of 2018, by the end of April. In addition, we need to come up with a name for our team.

- Stephanie agreed to head up the Bed Race. She will work with the Confirmation candidates.

Goal 4. Serve Christ by serving others.

Obj. # 1) A New Testament Children's Bible will be given to all infants baptized at St. Mary in 2018, provided by the Christian Women.

- Barb discussed the Bibles and reported that Fr. David said parents get a bible at Baptism. People are supposed to call if they did not receive one at Baptism. Barb will follow up with this issue.

Obj. # 2) Recruit and train at least five Stephen Ministers by the end of May 2018.

Obj. # 3) Recruit at least two youth/young adult groups to serve as God Works teams in 2018.

- Lorie suggested that we possibly create a new objective:
 - New widow group - Grieving with grace – working through transition of married to single
 - Lorie said there will be a widower group starting soon

B. Unleash the Gospel - Change of study method

- Nothing reported

C. Bereavement Ministry – John Castiglione

- The team have 87 families they are working with
- They added 2 new members to the group

D. Stephens Ministry – John Castiglione

- 12 members were commissioned
- All the women are assigned to someone
- Need more men
- John told us that if we need to be attentive to people's needs and if we sense a need for help to contact the Stephen's Ministers
- There was a discussion that we need to educate the parishioners on what Stephen's Ministry is all about

E. God Works – Fred Federowicz

- Fred reported they have a schedule for the SMCC beverage teams

F. Habitat for Humanity

- Fred reported that the build was cancelled mid-week and they are looking for a new date
- 11 or 12 people were signed up to volunteer along with the lunch crew

G. Vicariate

- Fred informed us that there were only 25 people attending the farewell reception for the Vicar, but they were prepared for 200 people

H. Hospitality - Barb Griffith

- The ministry is doing well, but more members are needed
- Commitment is only about 2 hours to help set up and clean up

I. Mrs. Claus – Stephanie Sconochia

- Stephanie stated that they will begin gearing up in September
- One of the members of the group is the director of CASA and she reported they had a graduation party for seven girls in foster care
- Mrs. Clause gave a \$50.00 gift certificate from Meijer to each of the seven girls that graduated who were in foster care.
- On another note, Stephanie distributed a flyer and told the members that the (AIM) Allies in Monroe flag program will erect a 3x5 flag on a 10' pole on 6 flag raising days throughout the year. The cost is \$50.00 and supports the program. The program encourages students to set and conquer scholastic goals.

J. Peace and Justice – Lorie Bronson

1. International Day of Peace – September 21; St. Mary Park

- Lorie is on the planning team who are coordinating with all junior and high schools to take an active part in this event

2. Sensory packets:

- Lorie reported that the VBA will underwrite the sensory packets.

3. NAACP – reformation of a local group is moving forward

4. In the Spirit of Giving – Lorie stated that there will be an open house and a worker's recognition dinner on Sept. 13

K. Engagement Center – Catholic Charities (C.C.)

- Monies from the sale of St. Joseph's in Monroe was designated to St. John parish to be used to help the poor and needy of Monroe
- There is a proposed partnership with C.C. and the Community Foundation of Monroe to set up an Engagement Center that would be a 24-hr. care center to offer drug abuse and alcohol abusers counseling and an alternative to jail time
- C.C. has partnered with the Community Foundation of Monroe. In addition, ProMedica of Monroe will be involved

L. St. Vincent DePaul – Jennifer St. Bernard

- They are partnering with MCOP to purchase food. They will get a weekly list of available food and purchase items from them
- They are applying for a \$5000.00 grant from Friends of the Poor for the purchase of beds. They hope to be approved by July 15.
- The Friends of the Poor Walk will be held on September 29. It is a 3 mile walk with food and entertainment at the end of the walk. The walkers are looking for sponsors. All the funds raised by St. Mary walkers stay in the parish.

M. Christian Women – Barb Griffith

- The Christian Women raised \$4492.00 from their soup luncheons. Monies will be donated to St. Vincent DePaul.

- Three \$500.00 scholarships to the elementary and high school students
- Donated \$1000.00 to the organ fund

N. Prayer Shawl –

- No report

O. Rosary Makers – Lorie Bronson

- Lorie said this ministry will end in June and resume in September

P. Giving Tree –

- No report

Q. Respect Life – Lorie

1. Baby Bottle Drive will be held at the end of September
 - a. They need an ultrasound operator to volunteer once a month at Heartbeat
2. Jennifer told about a march in South America where a mother wore a speaker and people could hear the heartbeat of her baby as they marched. The website is www.pop.org

R. Organic Garden – Maria

- They only had a small amount of salad items which were given to the homebound parishioners
- As more produce become available, they will be donating to God's Works!

S. Transportation – Lorie

- Lorie said there is a man that lives at Charlotte Arms who needs a ride to either the 9:30 or 11:30 mass

T. EME's – Lorie

- There is a need for more people to take communion on Sundays. A few more people were recently trained

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Health Ministry – Lorie

1. Blood Drive

- We do not be call people to donate blood and unfortunately the Red Cross failed to do so
- The goal for the blood drive was 68 but only 26 units were collected
- The next blood drive will be on September 22, 2018

2. Depression

- They are continuing discussion on meeting the need for those dealing with depression

3. Called & Gifted

- There will be a program and presentation on Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 8:00 – 4:00

OPEN FORUM:

A. Painted Pictures – Lorie

- Lorie shared with the group her experience with 8 other women who spent 3 hours last Monday painting a picture using paper.

B. Catechesis of the Good Shepard – Barb

- Barb reported that they are in the process of moving all the programs to the school basement
- There will be an open house and the parish will be invited to view the completed rooms.

C. Prayer Leader – June Meeting

- John will prepare the opening and closing prayer for the June meeting

Action Items

Person Responsible

Prepare opening and closing prayers for the June Meeting John

Next Meeting Date: September 25, 2018 at 4:30 in Lorie's office

I. Closing Prayer

- The members recited the closing prayer together.

*** Calendar of ministries to be highlighted in the Chronicle & on Facebook**

Oct. Rosary Makers
Nov. Prayer Shawl & God Works
Dec. Giving Tree
Jan. Peace & Justice -Respect Life
Feb. Hospitality
Mar. Organic Garden

Apr. Habitat for Humanity
May Christian Women
June Bereavement
July Visiting Eucharistic Ministers
Aug. Health Ministry
Sept. St. Vincent de Paul

Dates to Remember:

- **Sept. 21** - International Day of Peace
- **Sept. 22** – Blood Drive
- **September** – Annual Bed Race

Minutes submitted by: Connie Janus