

# St. Odilia Social Justice Ministry Area Council

## *Minutes 1-16-2024*

Name	Attending? Y/N	Name	Attending? Y/N
Beth Aune	Y	Phil Aune - Chair	Y
Sheba Fernandez	Y	Annetta Sutton	Y
Lynn Belgea	Y	Bernie Wiwel - Recorder	Y
Steve Kahat	Y	Attending PLC Rep –	Fr. James
Barb Woodruff	Y	Other Guests -	John Hunt

(PLC Reps: Vicky Cherne, Troy Gregory, Anne Rodenberg, Allison Dirksen )

## Opening Prayer

## Minutes

Approved last minutes.

## PLC Meeting Update

Annetta gave update on last PLC meeting. Some discussion on the prayer garden.

## Sheba on Scholarship Fund

- Needs approval from Rick to move forward on sending out application forms.
- Sheba and Phil will be meeting with Rick to discuss.
- Sheba leaving on 24th (India) so needs will need to get done soon.
- Raised question on how to set up response methods (mail, email).
- We could have applications by March, April time frame.
- Recipients could be announced at Parish Picnic.

## **Publications**

- No publications for January
- Sheba looking to do an article for black history in February.
- Blaine is also planning an article.
- We will be promoting the REM Native American course 'Not Our Land'.
- Annetta is writing something for Martin Luther King day (January).
- REM is generating many articles.

## ***Discussion on Protocol for Communicating Priority of Article Submissions***

- Bulletin is Weekly, but we can probably handle only twice a month between REM and SJC. Other groups also compete for this space.
- Phil is going to check with Amy to see if we can narrow it down to 2 bulletin articles per month.
- The Messenger has a quarterly submission for articles.
- If it is event/time critical that will take precedence mostly for printed material.
- Non-time critical articles can always be fit in when it can.
- May need to organize a sign-up sheet to cover different months.
- Blaine and Sheba will be coordinating the article submissions.

## **Discussing Goals**

- John Hunt reminded us that high level goals are to be determined by SJC.
- Talked about how REM provides detailed goals from the high level SJC goals.
- Discussed the term 'Anti-Racism' vs 'Eliminating Racism'

## **Indigenous People**

Had some discussion on the social justice topics surrounding the indigenous people.

- Talked about the land statement that the city has put together.
- Looking at promoting related events/exhibits happening at the museum.
- Looking forward to the Just Faith being put together.

## **Styrofoam**

Effort to elimination of Styrofoam at St. Odilia as a start for taking actions that promote better care for creation.

- This effort just started, so not much progress at this point.
- Steve and Blaine are talking about possible actions.
- One thought is creating a 'Care for Creation' team for people to meet and bring ideas.

- Get the student council involved to help on this front.
- April 24th is a target date to start educating on this with coffee and donuts using alternate cups.
- Need a report about the details of Styrofoam and its detriments.
- Talked about a possible pen and pencil survey for parish to vote on the elimination of Styrofoam.
- Beth thinks we need a special meeting for SJC to discuss this? (Steve is going to send an email out with a date that we can all meet with Blaine)
- Another question put forth: Does the school use Styrofoam??

## **Barb's Idea on Electronics Recycling Event**

- Talked about the non-profit group 'Re-powered'
- They do the recycling and train people who have barriers to employment.
- The plan would be to have weekend drop-offs.
- There would be secure containers to protect the privacy of potentially data critical items (hard drives).
- Could be done in connection with earth day (22nd April).
- Some possible times: 9 to noon on Saturday 21st April? Or longer and we lock it up in a secure room.
- Could be a community event.

## **REM has another speaker with Professor Stewart on Feb28th**

### **Organizing Summaries on REM Activity**

Richard offered to come each week to provide a summary of REM activities.

- There is an interest in getting and organizing updates on REM activity.
- Having a written summary in email form could also be an efficient way to organize this.

### **Community Life Council (John Hunt)**

- John joined the SJC meeting to discuss how the Community Life ministry can provide volunteers.
- They have 25-30 people who can help.
- They can help with events like the electronics drop off.

### **Discussed Goals**

- It was determined the charter is not needed.
- There is still a desire for a liaison (one of goals).
- Decided to have current goals presented to the PLC.

## **Sheba Wrapping Up Logistics on Scholarship Applications.**

- Discussed how to get forms out and receive them back while protecting applicants information.
- Discussed possibility of email submission.
- Discussed options for physical drop off.
- Discussed paper only submissions.