

ST. PERPETUA OUTREACH COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 7, 2014

Members Present: Pat Snyder (Acting Chair), Ann Diemer (Acting Secretary), Ann Meyer (Treasurer), Mary Terjeson, Marj Ho, Ann Porcella, Sandy Gritzer, Carol Weyer, Virginia LaFaille, Kitty Locke

Opening Prayer: Pat Snyder opened the meeting with a prayer.

Correspondence & Agency Updates and Speakers: Ann Porcella spoke about SPRED. They were well funded a few years ago but now could use our help. Ann would like us to consider adding them back to agencies we support, maybe once per year, when we talk about reprioritization. They provide religious education to those who are developmentally challenged in some way. It was agreed that Ann will ask SPRED to provide a speaker for the January meeting and then we will revisit funding. Kitty Locke mentioned that Monument Crisis Center continues to provide an extraordinary level of services. She also noted that the CCIC Coalition would like a representative from St. Perpetua on their Resource Committee and that Richard Meyer has agreed to be a liaison for now between the Resource Committee and the Outreach Committee. Pat Snyder reported that she attended September meeting of homeless summit where the Winter Nights program was discussed. Gwen Watson is stepping back and will not be ED any longer. She has been replaced by Judy Stillman from Lafayette Methodist, who shadowed Gwenn last year and is well prepared. She has been in charge of education programs for Winter Nights in past years. A special donation of \$1500 was received from the Moraga Kiwanis to put towards developing educational programs for evenings at the moving shelter. The shelter started October 6th and will go through approximately May 1st. The goal is to find all clients permanent housing by May 1st. They are working on requiring more accountability from clients in an effort to ensure placement. There is a mentoring program in place to assist with helping clients move forward in their lives to a better situation. There was a question if there will be a fund raising Pasta feed again this year for Winter Nights. Pat Snyder will check and let the Committee know. Virginia LaFaille brought up Friendly Manor. She has a bit of a concern that the program is not rigorous enough and is basically just a drop in. She went on to say that there is work done to connect woman with needed services and the group agreed that it sounds like the program is still beneficial. She read a nice thank you letter which may be published in the bulletin, if it can be accommodated. Judith is researching "Safe families for children" and will report back next time she is able to attend.

Action Items: Ann Porcella to inquire if SPRED can provide a speaker for January meeting. Pat Snyder to find out if there will be a Winter Nights fund raising pasta feed this year. Virginia to coordinate with Sandy Gritzer to see if thank you note from Friendly Manor can be published in Parish bulletin.

Financial Report: Anne Meyer reported the September balance in the Outreach account to be only \$5583.17. It was agreed to draw down the balance by \$5000 to save some funds for Shelter meal reimbursement and make 10 each \$500 donations. Charities to receive donations include Bay Area Crisis Nursery, Cambridge Community Center, Child Abuse Prevention Council, Options for Women, We Care, Youth Homes, Contra Costa Food Bank, CCIC Cleaning Kits (Kitty Locke), Senior Outreach Services, and Project Hope.

Action Item: Anne Meyer to request checks for the designated charities and have them mailed.

Food Basket and Christmas Food Drive: The food collection in September was successful with 30 bags of food delivered to St Vincent de Paul at St Francis of Assisi by Pat Henderson. The October collection on the 11th and 12th will focus on beans for Monument Crisis Center. There was a discussion of the Christmas Food Drive. Sandi Gritzer will get 300 bags from Trader Joes and Carol Weyer will create/update flyer. Dates for the drive will be December 6th and 7th for Monument and December 13th and 14th for St. Vincent de Paul. The bags will be handed out Thanksgiving weekend and any remaining bags on December 6th and 7th.

Action Item: All to assist at masses in October as necessary to move food items to hall. Virginia and Kitty indicated they currently have adequate help. Sandi and Carol will coordinate on getting bags ready for Christmas Food Drive to be handed out at Thanksgiving masses.

Blue Barrel: Virginia LaFaille reported the September Blue Barrel was very successful with 60 bags of useful items collected filling two vans! They can always use greeting cards so feel free to leave cards received as promotions in Friendly Manor basket at church. There was a discussion of the next Blue Barrel which will be conducted during Lent...in late February or early March. One idea being discussed is suitcases for foster youths. Ann Porcella had donated some suitcases and will follow up with more information on what types of suit cases and possibly duffle bags would be useful.

Action Item: Sandi to consider item in Bulletin suggesting people donate unneeded greeting cards to Friendly Manor by leaving in basket in foyer of church. Ann and others to gather more information on what types of suitcases and duffle bags might be appropriate for a blue barrel collection during Lent.

Shoes that Fit: The first request for shoes came in from Los Medanos for 49 pairs and all names were picked up and 25 pair of shoes have already been turned in. They currently have enough signups for delivery of the shoes and will let Committee know if they need help.

Publicity: Sandy Gritzer took note of the publicity announcements for the bulletin.

Action Item: Sandy to supply announcements to office for bulletin.

Shelter Dinner Update: The October meal was prepared and served by the St. Perpetua School Board. The November meal will be prepared and served by the St Perpetua 8th grade class.

Concluding Prayer: Mary Terjeson asked the group to join her in an Our Father.

Next Outreach Meeting: November 4, 2014