

ST PERPETUA OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 2, 2016

Members Present: Pat Snyder (Acting Chair), Marj Ho, Sandi Gritzer, Joan Liston, Kitty Locke, Anne Meier, Ann Porcella, Judith Russell (Acting Secretary), Mary Terjeson, Sarah Ellison, Carol Weyer.

Welcome & Prayer: Pat Snyder opened the meeting and handed out a prayer, which the group read aloud.

Speakers: There was no speaker.

Potential speakers: Virginia La Fosse said that in April the Speaker will be Sister Marti McCarthy, the new Director of Friendly Manor.

Rotating Chair: Pat Snyder passed around a sign up sheet for people to volunteer to serve as a rotating chairperson.

Correspondence and agency updates: Mary Terjeson said that 60% receive no public assistance. Virginia said that the St Vincent De Paul Food Bank was in need.

Annual Report. Mary Terjeson pointed out changes needed in the Annual Report. She will correct and send it to Kathrine Korsak.

Current Support Policy. Sarah Ellison distributed a hand out listing the organizations supported by St Perpetua's Second Collections. The National Council of Bishops coordinates some of the programs listed. Catholic Relief funds several. Sarah said that in many cases it is hard to tell between expenditures for programs and those for administration. None of the programs listed are supported by the Outreach Committee. Joan Liston said we are focusing on agencies concerned with poverty, crisis, and hunger. \$43,000 came from the 2nd collections; almost the same as local support for our agencies. Anne Diemer said that there still is a real need here although we are a rich county. Sarah asked whether agencies will be able to reach more people with our support, or whether they would have the same level of service without it. Mary Terjeson said that some of the programs listed have higher administrative costs than our committee's standard.

In evaluating our current list of agencies, Ann Diemer commented that the Outreach Committee collects about \$30,000 per year. Twenty agencies would be as high as we would want to go. We should hesitate to add any above that number. Pat Snyder said there are 22 on our list right now plus the shelter dinners. Possible new agencies for funding include Trinity Center and Hillcrest. Support Requests have also come from Grateful Gatherings. Kitty Locke said we do that already. because our committee supports CCIH's furniture drive (see Jan 24th and 31st bulletins). Carol Weyer and Kitty said it sounds redundant. Pat said they attempt to completely furnish one apartment for one family. Mary Terjeson said that it duplicates other agencies' services. Pat Snyder said they want someone to manage the project. Pat Snyder said she will tell Grateful Gatherings that we'll keep them in mind, but not support them immediately.

In reviewing the current description and guidelines of our committee, the committee agreed that officers should not be for a full year but in rotation. Other areas in need of revision were discussed. Mary Terjeson, Joan Liston, Sandi Gritzer, and Sarah Ellison will get together and draft a revised description and guidelines for our committee.

Sandi Gritzer reported that Fr John said the Bishop has suggested that we adopt a refugee family. Mary Terjeson said we should continue being alert as to how we get people involved. Joan Liston suggestion that we think of something where children could participate. Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church has one day that people from the church all serve together.

Financial Report and Fund Distribution: Anne Meier reported that our balance is \$8,493. The next Second Collection will be May 29. We receive about \$1200 from the monthly electronic collection for the Outreach Committee. On the 5th Sundays we support Buzz Sherwood who helps with feeding the homeless at People's Park in Berkeley. The food is prepared in our kitchen and transported to People's Park. Joan Liston suggested we should remove Cambridge Community Center this month, because they now have Headstart funding. Kitty said we need Cleaning kits.

Winter Nights Pasta Feed Feb 20th. Outreach Committee members are volunteering to sell pasta feed tickets at mass. On February 6th and 7th we will make a pitch at each mass.

Hosting. Our Parish agreed to help the Orinda Community Church. Karen Kalvass will collect sign ups for serving on March 12th and 13th.

Food Basket: February goes to Monument.

Blue Barrel. Pat Snyder said that Karen Kalvass is collecting clothing, April 9 and 10, for the Hillcrest Congregational Church Clothing Drive. We will help. Kitty said the clothing will need to be sorted.

Shoes That Fit: Marj Ho said we should get the new shoe list soon.

Other: Defer discussion of Bishop Barber's suggestion that we might adopt a refugee family

Publicity: Sandi said that publicity needs are noted.

Shelter Dinner: School is cooking and transporting for the Shelter Dinner in February and March. Monica feels okay about coordinating cooks.

Closing Prayer: Pat Snyder led the group in saying the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: March 1, 2016. Rotating Chairperson Mary Terjeson.