

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2016

Joyce opened the meeting at 7:01 pm. Diane Meleschkewich led us in prayer with a passage from the bible.

In attendance were: Charlene Albanese, Mary Carolan, Nayad Castaldo, Eileen Corrigan, Ginger Denault, Jo Ann DiSalvo Linda Hunt, Tricia Jecmen, Robert Kavanaugh, Gladys Keating, Johann Lettieri, Jessica McMahon, Diane Meleshkewich, Mary Merenda, Joyce Pfirman, Nerina Pirelli, Christine Pompa, Jon Pon, Michelle Romano, Ed Ryan, Bob Silveri, Betsy Thompson, Jeanne Tobin.

Introduction of new people – Linda Hunt - no new members

Minutes of last meeting – Read by Jo Ann DiSalvo. Approved by Christine Pompa and seconded by Jeanne Tobin.

President's Report: HPNAP Report (Hunger Prevention & Nutrition Assistance Program) **for Sept 2016:**

	<u>Sept 2016</u>	<u>Sept 2015</u>	<u>Aug 2016</u>
Households	85	87	82
Children	75	83	75
Adults (18-64)	136	138	144
Elderly (65+)	25	28	25
Total People	236	249	244

Change

September 2016 represents an 8 household decrease over the previous month (Aug 2016), and a 13 household decrease over September 2015.

<u>Food Bank Run</u>	<u>Gross Weight</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Our Cost</u>
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October 12, 2016	5,215 lbs	\$3,717.78	\$58.25	\$3,659.54
2H1617 Produce				

Driving to the foodbank were Chuck Bunnell and Bill Keaveney and Jon Pon. On hand to put the food away were: Chuck Bunnell, Tom O'Mara, Joyce Pfirman, Jon Son, Bill Keaveney, Robert Kavanaugh, Richard Heffernan, John Lucid, Betsy Thompson, Dianne Ryan, Ed Ryan, Joe Fulton, Laura Ryan, Ryan Daly.

Joyce thanked the guys who drove to the food bank. Since it was a holiday, they were short staffed and there was a long wait. The food pantry is well stocked.

Treasurer's Report – Annual report Sept 2015 – August 2016: Jessica McMahon

We took a vote to approve the budget for 2016/2017 and it was unanimously approved.

Food drive at Shop Rite in LaGrange on September 24th was a big success. Thanks to Jim Mullen, Tom O'Mara, Elizabeth Testa, Betsy Thompson, Mary Carolan, Linda Hunt, Jeanne Tobin, Bob Kavanaugh and Jim Gillen for helping. We received several bags of food and food items, as well as \$391 in cash donations.

East Fishkill Police department wants to do a food drive on Sunday, November 6th at Acme. A sheet was circulated for people to sign up to help put the food away at the pantry.

Shirt orders – Shirt orders may be placed tonight. The binder will be left in the pantry until October 19th. Mary will pick the binder up at the end of the day on the 19th.

St. Josephs' Men Group bunk beds – Please let Linda Hunt know if there are any additional clients who needs beds. One client was given a set.

Thanksgiving & Christmas Baskets – Linda Hunt needs confirmation on clients needing baskets. The notice will appear in the bulletins starting Oct 23 through Nov 13 for Thanksgiving baskets. This was also put on the website. Sign up sheet will go around at the next meeting. Any client that was a no show in the past, is no longer eligible for a basket, but we can give them food from the pantry.

Gift cards – Based on the vote at last month's meeting, we are purchasing the Christmas gift cards from Kohl's. The St. Denis-St. Columba School no longer sells cards, so we are working directly with Kohl's corporate program. We will receive a 5% discount since we will be spending over \$1000. We have 183 children among our client families. Thanks to Jeanne Tobin for doing the research on the stores. Joyce has started the process by opening an account and we will be receiving the cards well before the Christmas distribution date. There will be a notice in the bulletin asking for donations for the gift cards for next year.

2017 Meeting Calendar is being distributed. Please note in April we will be meeting the first Wednesday of the month, as the school will be closed the following week for Holy Week. Christmas falls on a Monday next year, so we will be distributing baskets on December 17th. There was a discussion regarding produce coupons since the distribution is so early. We do have a year to consider our options.

Heat – Please communicate to your clients: a) Central Hudson has payment assistance programs. B) The NY State Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps low-income people pay the cost of heating their homes. Details on the website are not firm for 2016-2017. We do have the money in the budget or emergency assistance. This is a once a year offer.

Mary Merenda gave an update on the bagel situation. We need to go every week. The bagel store doesn't have anyone else to give them too. Please be generous with the bagels.

We got fresh peppers and carrots and dried cherries today from the food bank. Please give them out. Patti Peck also gave us some produce and meats. Patti Peck has an agreement with Shop Rite for their expired food.

New Clients needing member reps – Christine & Linda - We have one new member who needs a client..

Next meeting is November 9, 2016. Diane Meleschkewich led us in the closing Prayer - the Our Father. Joyce closed the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Submitted by Jo Ann DiSalvo