

**St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Meeting Minutes**

**November 11, 2015**

Joyce opened the meeting at 7 pm.

Diane Meleshkewich lead us in the Our Father.

In attendance were: Helen Battaglini, Kathleen Bell, Frances Bova, Michelle Bowe, Joanne Bunnell, Jacqueline Capuano, Mary Carolan, Nayad Castaldo, Nubia Condon, Eileen Daly, Jo Ann DiSalvo, Jennifer Gifford, Carole Grafer, Linda Hunt, Elizabeth Joyce, Robert Kavanaugh, Gladys Keating, Jessica McMahon, Diane Meleshkewich, Mary Merenda, Jim Mullen, Tom O’Mara, Chris O’Rourke, Joyce Pfirman, Nerina Pirrelli, Christine & Marian Pompa, Michelle Romano, Ed & Dianne Ryan, Anne & Joe Schiavone, Bob Silveri, Susan Sinclair, Elizabeth Testa, Betsy Thompson, Lorry Thorne

Linda Hunt introduced the new members - Chris Hobson, Frank Serrano, Heidi Havens, Eileen Corrigan, Chris Merenda, & George & Elizabeth Morton.

The minutes of the October meeting were read by Jo Ann DiSalvo - Approved by Frances Bova & seconded Linda Hunt.

**President’s Report: HPNAP Report (Hunger Prevention & Nutrition Assistance Program) for October 2015:**

	<u>Oct 2015</u>	<u>Oct 2014</u>	<u>Sept 2015</u>
<b>Households</b>	92	116	87
Children	86	110	83
Adults (18-64)	160	197	138
Elderly (65+)	32	36	28
<b>Total People</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>249</b>

Change

October 2015 represents a 24 household decrease over October 2014 and a 5 household increase over September 2015.

The monthly averages for 2015 through October are 92 households and 282 people.

<u>Food Bank Run</u>	<u>Gross Weight</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Our Cost</u>
Nov. 11, 2015	4,325	\$3,829.06	\$60.48	\$3,768.58
			2H1516 Produce Grant	

Driving to the foodbank were: Jim Mullen and Chuck Bunnell On hand to put the food away were: Chuck Bunnell, Jim Mullen, John Lucid, Ed & Diane Ryan, Betsy Thompson, Jim Gillen, Rebecca & Avery Marino, Jon Pon, Tom O'Mara, Bob Silveri, Betty Riggio and Joyce Pfirman.

**Treasurer's Report** – September 2015 - Jessica McMahon gave the report.

There was a misunderstanding regarding the poor box at St. Kateri. We learned that we are still receiving checks that are made out to SVDP. A check in the amount of \$504 was received from St. Kateri. Joyce spoke with Joan at the office to confirm.

**By-Laws Proposed changes** – Joyce asked if anyone had any questions. There weren't any questions. A vote was held, and an 86% majority of the members approved the changes. 37 members were in attendance tonight. Mary Merenda counted the vote.

**Clients in need of Reps assigned** – Linda reported that there are new families coming in all the time. Linda handles the family the first time, but then assigns them to a member. Christine reported that there are 20 clients that need members. We currently have 198 active clients. Several members agreed to take a new client. Christine took down the names & the members will be contacted.

**Tour of Pantry** – Linda will be giving the K-1 students of the St. Denis/St. Columba school a tour of the pantry on November 12th at 12:45. If you are meeting with a client, please try to avoid this time.

**Thanksgiving Basket update** – Linda reported that there are 135 baskets to be given out. 25 baskets still need to be filled. Linda passed a sheet around for members to help out on Sunday, November 22nd with the basket distribution.

**10) Upcoming Food Drives** - The East Fishkill Police department will be having a food drive on November 14th. We will need help putting the food away at 4:30 pm. Four Corners is also having a food drive this Saturday. They will be at the pantry at 11:30 am to drop off the food. State Assembly woman, Sara Beiano, is also having a food drive on Monday, November 16th. The food will be dropped off at 9 am.

**2016 Meeting Calendar** – Joyce distributed. Next year in case of inclement weather we will posting to the website or members can call Joyce. Just because school is closed doesn't mean the meeting is cancelled. We will also use cancellations.com.

**Bunk Beds from St. Joseph's Men's Group** – Bunk beds will be available for our clients. Please let Joyce know if your client can use one. Anyone who has a client with children, please ask them if they are in need. There are currently 7 bunk bed & 22 sets of sheets available right now. The beds are twin size.

**Catholic Charities of Dutchess County** – Joyce added a brochure to the binder in pantry. Services provided: Social services for family crisis, facilitate enrollment for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), welcoming immigrants & refugees, legal services & support groups, services for the blind & deaf, youth support programs. 845-452-1400

**HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) reminder** – The 2015-16 Emergency benefit component opens January 4, 2016. The 2015-16 Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement benefit component opens November 9, 2015. We encourage clients to sign up for this. This information is also in the brown binder in the pantry.

#### **Other topics -**

Thanks to Nyad for keeping the website up to date.

Jim Mullen gave an update on Acme. We are receiving all A&P products. Jim reported that 50% of it is useful, the rest we aren't sure. We now have another locker at EZ storage. We may put up shelves in the hall for the time being. Jim will be talking to Gary. Jim is contacting other food pantries to see if they are interested in taking some of the items. Patti Peck still doesn't have a contract with Acme.

We are getting meat from Stop & Shop in Beekman. It is frozen. Tom O'Mara has been getting this for a couple of weeks.

**Closing Prayer** – Joyce closed the meeting a 7:51 pm

Diane led us in the Hail Mary.

The next meeting will be held on December 9, 2015 at 7pm followed by our Christmas party.

Submitted by Jo Ann DiSalvo