

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2016

Opening Prayer – from 2 Corinthians 8:13-14 7:02 pm

In attendance were: Sheila Burke, Mary Carolan, Jo Ann DiSalvo, Heidi Havens, Chris Hobson, Linda Hunt, Gladys Keating, Johann Lettieri, Jessica Mc Mahon, Mary Merenda, Jim Mullen, Tom O'Mara, Joyce Pfirmman, Nerina Pirrelli, Jon Pon, Ed and Dianne Ryan, Bob Silveri, Susan Sinclair, Elizabeth Testa, Betsy Thompson, Jeanne Tobin, Anne and Joe Schiavone, Patrice Schiavo, Nayad Castaldo, Helen Battaglini, Anne Beach, Eric Freiburger, Robert Kavanaugh and Virginia Denault.

Introduction of new people – Linda Hunt - Anne Beach, Eric Freiburger and Virginia Denault.

Minutes of the June meeting were read by Jo Ann DiSalvo. They were approved by Linda Hunt and seconded by Mike Martinelli.

President's Report: HPNAP Report (Hunger Prevention & Nutrition Assistance Program) **for June/July/Aug 2016:**

	<u>June 2016</u>	<u>July 2015</u>	<u>Aug 2016</u>
Households	92	80	82
Children	82	86	75
Adults (18-64)	168	135	144
Elderly (65+)	32	27	25
Total People	282	248	244

Change

June – August averaged 85 households and 258 people. This represents a decrease of 1 household over the same period in 2015.

<u>Food Bank Run</u>	<u>Gross Weight</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Our Cost</u>
July	6,057	\$3,737.09	2,826.25 HPNAP1617	\$ 910.84
Aug	5,382	\$3,575.79	62.72 Produce 1,873.75 HPNAP1617	\$1,639.32
Sept.	5,987	\$ 3,479.94	76.16 Produce	\$3,403.78

Driving to the foodbank over the last three months were Jim Mullen, Tom, O'Mara, Chuck Bunnell and Jim Gillen. On hand to put the food away were: Chuck Bunnell, Jim Mullen, Joyce Pfirmman, Tom O'Mara, Bob Silveri, Betsy Thompson, Richard Heffernan, Betty Riggio, Joe Fulton, Jon Pon, Dianne Ryan, Robert Kavanaugh, Vincent M?, Laura Ryan.

Treasurer's Report – May - July 2016 Jessica McMahon

We received a HPNAP food grant of \$4,400 (compared to \$5,500) last year. We also received Operations Support Program (OSP) grants of \$700 towards the cost of transportation to the food bank and \$1200 for the cost of utilities. This covers the rental of the truck.

The Pantry Floor was painted over the weekend of Sept 10 & 11th. A big thanks to Jim Mullen, Tom O'Mara and Jim Gillen.

Stuff the Bus – Catholic Charities hosted a food drive at five Stop & Shop locations on June 25 & 26. Joyce and Mary Carolan went on Saturday to help sort the food at the Sacred Heart Church in Newburgh as it came in from the buses. Tom O'Mara and Chuck Bunnell picked up the share for our pantry on Monday. Nyad posted pictures on our website and the article in the Southern Dutchess News was circulated.

Joyce reported that Sophia Sciacca, who has been our Catholic Charities contact and who spoke at a meeting in February, is being replaced by Elena Dalia.

Our **Back to School Supplies** drive was successfully run during August. We received a lot of contributions. Not much went back into storage. There is a box in the pantry under the toilet paper if you have a client who didn't get a chance to get what they needed.

Food drive at Shop Rite in LaGrange new Rt. 82 store will be held on September 17th from 10am – 3pm. Volunteers are needed to greet people entering and exiting the store, as well as to put food away. A sign up sheet was passed around. September is hunger prevention month. Food will be taken to the storage unit. There will also be a donation jar.

Shirt orders – Mary Carolan has worked with Embroidery Design to get updated prices on the shirts and sweatshirts. A binder has been put together to show all the styles and pricing, and will be available in the pantry. Payment is by check when you complete the order form. You may place orders at the next meeting, or up until the deadline, Oct. 19th. Christine will be sending an email to all members with this information.

St. Joseph's Men Group is again making bunk beds. Let Linda Hunt or Joyce Pfirman know if you have a client in need. This will also be put on the website so all members are aware.

Thanksgiving & Christmas Baskets – Linda

Joyce explained the process of the holiday baskets. Members need to call clients and verify what is needed. Thanksgiving disbursement = Nov 20. Christmas disbursement = Dec 18. Confirmation of clients in need of baskets by next meeting; Oct 12 for both baskets. This information will appear in the bulletin late October.

Gift cards – Jeanne Tobin gave an update on this. Children infant - 17 years old are eligible for a gift card so that the parent or guardian can buy the child a gift. Jeanne looked into the following stores: Burlington, Sears, Kohls, TJ Maxx and Marshalls. Toys and clothing have drastically gone down hill at Burlington. Sears and KMart use the same gift cards. KMart sells alcohol. JC Penny has nice clothing very little toys. TJ Maxx and Marshalls have combined gift cards: not much in the way of toys but may be getting more for Christmas; clothing is available. Kohls has good quality clothing and a 10 x 10 area of toys. We have some Burlington cards leftover from last year that will be distributed. A vote was taken and the group decided on Kohl's. Gift cards will be bought through St.Denis St. Columba school. The school gets credit.

Food Bank Orientation & safety class – Joyce attended this class on September 9th. She encouraged others to attend. Because we buy from the food bank we do not discriminate. We serve everyone. Offer a bulletin, but please do not put it in the bag without consent.

New Clients needing member reps – Christine & Linda - Linda has five more clients that need members. JoAnne Bunnell and Joyce will be holding new member orientation after tonight's meeting.

Other topics from members:

Read information that is on the bulletin board: Client bill of rights, pantry bill of rights SNAP program. There is a wealth of information on the bulletin board in the hall of the pantry. Food expiration dates are in the blue binder above the freezer.

We have a lot of bagels. Mary brought up the point that maybe we shouldn't go every week. Mary will contact Vera and let her know we want to go every other week.

Please give out the produce.

Linda is purchasing coats for the children. Please let her know if your client has any special size needs. Coats may be given out to your clients from the pantry. We will also have coats from the Knights of Columbus to distribute with the Thanksgiving baskets.

Next meeting is October 12, 2016. Closing Prayer 8:02 pm Our Father

Submitted by Jo Ann DiSalvo