

MINUTES OF HCC

January 7, 2025 - 5:30 PM in the ND Room, East Site Parish Center

Members Present: Beth M., Carrie G., Widge L., John W., Nancy D., Deb P., Janice L., Dave S., Mike G., Sr. Lincy, Kathy S.

Opening Prayer and Mission Statement read by all in attendance.

Minutes from November 13 – were APPROVED via email and have been posted online.

We began with **New Business**

JANUARY SPOTLIGHT – Women’s Care Center –Kathy reported that they requested that we do a drive for them like we did last year; they sent a specific list of needs which has been in the bulletin and on our social media; & plays are set up at both worship sites with signs listing the needs; they will be up through the month of January.

FEBRUARY SPOTLIGHT -- A.R.K.: Valentine Cupcakes Sr. Lincy will take the lead on this asking her normal volunteers to deliver the Valentine bags; Parish Pastoral Council will be helping with deliveries and we will request additional volunteers to deliver after masses in a couple of weeks (Mike G. offered to help deliver) & Nancy D. offered to help with taking names at the 4pm mass; the cupcake makers are lined up; cupcake holders are ordered; bags will be supplied; Sr. Vita is organizing the RE classes to make cards to go with the bags; Sr. Lincy thinks that we will only need about 50 bags.

Additional Valentine Outreach: Veterans, (Allis Care Center) – Beth will handle.

MARCH SPOTLIGHT – LENT 2025: Congo Helping Hands – Kathy will ask Jeff Mullins about a presentation at the masses; she also updated the group – due to the ongoing medical issues of both Woody and Jeff, as well as the many issues in the DRC itself, sadly this will be the last time they are our foreign ministry spotlight.

Second MARCH SPOTLIGHT - Dignity Kits – Mike indicated that we need to take inventory of what we have (stored at Bethany Outreach House) and then have a drive in March (Lent) for this as our local outreach; we will put the kits together after the drive.

ERAS Tapestry Event – Kathy will check on the date of the event; the group decided they wish to continue supporting with a basket donation of West Allis gift cards and goodies. Additional details will be shared when available.

Additional items for discussion –

- The group was told that Council/Festival Committee is asking all Parish Groups & Committees to donate a basket for the Auction. Many ideas were discussed for our group and a decision will be made at the February meeting.
- Having a speaker at the Cleveland Pub was discussed. The VFP Group’s NAMI representative (Bob Hagen sp?) was suggested. John Weber will look into it.

Old Business Review

Angel Trees: Kathy shared that November is the best time to collect so will be repeated next year; this year’s beneficiaries were *Fr. Gene’s Help Center* – we collected & delivered 3 loads of new Coats that were distributed almost as fast as they came in; *Capuchin Toy Drive* – Kathy reported 4 loads of toys & a van full of bikes with training wheels (9) were delivered late November and the first week of December.

Domestic Violence Awareness signs were approved; Council Chair Gary J. requested additional information so a complete explanation was shared with Council; signs should be up soon.

A.R.K. Project for December – Christmas Cookies – Beth and Sr. Lincy shared that though it was a lot of work, it went very well and was much appreciated. About 75 households received boxes of cookies and hot

chocolate mix along with a signed card. Deliveries were made by 2 people/household and there were enough volunteers.

Ongoing Business

- **Parish Council Overview** — Minutes are on the website; Dave reported that the Council is trying to keep the meetings shorter by having all liaisons use a brief synopsis vs. the minutes to report; the areas Gary (chair person) requested elaboration on weren't even discussed at the meeting (written response was adequate apparently regarding the bathroom signs; Sr. Lincy wasn't contacted regarding the training session for home visits); Council discussed at length the best way to attract new members for the Council since they are needed by May; use of the discernment process vs. election was discussed but not decided; much discussion regarding the June festival as well.
- **Staff/communications** – we have a new bookkeeper to assist in the Finance area, Kari U (was in the bulletin)
- **V.F.P.** – John W – Minutes should be on the website soon (will request they be in the same website area as the HCC Minutes); the NAMI rep on this committee was suggested as a potential presenter for us.
- **Grief/ Funeral Ministry/ Bereavement Subcommittee** – John W & Sr. Lincy reported that they have some new funeral volunteers; they hope whenever it is feasible to hand deliver bereavement cards together with a visit, they will do that vs. just mailing the cards; possible opportunities would be when it is a spouse's death or where a parishioner or relative was the caregiver and lives nearby.
- **Senior/Homebound**– Sr. Lincy reported that the Christmas cookie delivery went very well and was very much appreciated (75 recipients); she is attempting to identify and reach out/visit former St. Aloysius parishioners who are inactive or homebound (seems to be a forgotten group); the homes visited at Christmas where they caroled with the help from some Schoenstatt Sisters and Fr. Matthew, were quite fun; John W. continues doing a communion service at Heritage but Sr. Lincy will see if Fr. Matthew can do one mass/month there.
- **Baptismal Bags** – Carrie reported there is a baptism request coming for March, possibly February.
- **St. Ben's** – Kathy reported that this ministry has several new volunteers; Next Serving date: Mon., January 20; Next bag assembly: Thursday Jan. 16 & 23.
- **Sandwich Ministry** – John W reported they now make 350-400 sandwiches. Next sandwich making: Tuesday, January 14.
- **Hunger Task Force Stock Box** – Kathy reported that numbers are down a bit; no problems with the site and they wish to continue at the MPH East site; Next is Tuesday, January 14.
- **Crossroads Kitchen** – Kathy reported that the preparation crew was smaller in December but the client numbers were half what they have been; dessert makers have been great and will continue in 2025; next cooking/serving date: Friday, January 31; this baking group will do the cupcakes for homebound at Valentine's Day as well.
- **SVdP Food Pantry** -Kathy reported numbers were way up for November and December; Pantry continues every Saturday & Wednesday; another Meijer's Simply Give campaign will begin shortly.

Upcoming meetings: Second Wednesday of each month; 5:30 PM, Parish Center, 106th St. Site

Next Meetings: February 12 March 12 April 9

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025 Easter: April 20

Closing prayer – Intentions and handout prayer by the group