

Committee for the Poor

Minutes: Aug 2, 2011

In attendance: Dick Held, Mary Walker, Guiseppe Nespoli, Danielle Nelson, Maureen Levinson, Cara Moreno

- We followed the agenda fairly closely
- Made introductions including new member Maureen Levinson, the CFP's liaison with SMT school. This is a great addition for the committee as we aim to find more opportunities to work together
- Cara presented new mission statement reflecting a vision for the spirit of the committee going fwd focusing equally on engaging the church and serving the poor. Everyone present agreed to it: "To support the spiritual engagement and growth of SMT parishioners by providing a forum to engage in acts of charity both in our community and in areas outside our community where we are called to serve" [pls let us know if there is any additional feedback]
- Cara communicated feedback from parishioners and the organizations we support that she and Giuseppe visited this summer. Main takeaways: Incredible organization – very helpful and giving, Request to grow and build deeper relationships with SMT CFP, More frequent communication / provide logistics to events, More variety, fewer drives....we will try to incorporate all of this into this years' agenda
- **Main focus for coming year: Growing an engaged committee, Proactive involvement, depth over breadth, more youth involvement (engaging with SMT school), communication, fun!**
- Agreed new bulletin format to highlight more opportunities for parishioners and the school to get involved (both proactively and passively)
- Reviewed calendar up to December, made some adjustments based on feedback
- Discussed "SMT Big Give" as Spring flagship event to replace monthly drives...one big drive supporting multiple organizations in a possible carnival like atmosphere involving both school and parish
- St. Vincent to be moved to Sept so as to not conflict with Knights drive two wks prior
- Major upcoming events (in Sept) – BBQ benefit for Resurrection (Sept 4th) Committee overview and recruitment (Sept 18th – **this is a date change!**) Bundle Sunday (sept 18th)
 - Signed up for recruitment booth: 7:30 no one, 9:00 Cara, 10:30 Danielle, 12:00 Guiseppe, 5:30 Sunday Dick (tentative) [pls let me know if this date doesn't work]
- **Open Questions:**
 - Looking for ideas and someone to lead St. Vincent de Paul feast day presentation (kick off for Xmas bag fundraising) – this is in addition to whatever Joe has planned☺
 - Looking for anyone with film background to help with filming a documentary on Xmas bag distribution to poor
- **Agreed Follow-ups:**

- Maureen – check with Debbie on date for Big Give and possibility of having section in grapevine; also find out if donations needed for publishing in church bulletin
- Giuseppe – follow up on BBQ – date and booth set up, procuring tiles, Resurrection agree to tiles and donation type (ie desks etc), logistics assoc with Lantern auction
- Dick – follow up with Joe on possibility of filming entire xmas bag process from receiving to stuffing to distributing for use in next year fundraising
- Cara – move St. Vincent bundle Sunday to Sept [done – moved to sept 18th]

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1. Opening Prayer
2. Welcome back! Introductions
3. Summer recap – meetings, ideas, feedback, who’s on board
 - SMT School – Debbie, Maureen
 - Resurrection – Fr. John Moretta, Sr. Rose, TBD from CFP
 - St. Josephs –Kevin McCardle, TBD from CFP
 - Fr. Ben, various parishioners – general feedback
4. Focus, Goals and Initiatives of Committee for upcoming year – Cara Presentation
Summary: Growing an engaged committee, Proactive involvement, depth over breadth, more youth involvement (engaging with SMT school), communication, fun!
 - Mission Statement
 - feedback on overall goals
 - Possible new Bulletin format
 - Thank you / Get Involved - CFP Current Events / Individual Donations and Volunteer Opportunities / Next Meeting / Contact
5. Review calendar for coming year
 - Introduce “SMT Big Give” – interest, leaders, reserving date
6. Open positions – Communications, membership, secretary, liaisons with each org we support
7. Upcoming Events
 - August event – St. Vincent’s “Bundle Sunday” - Cara
 - Back to School BBQ – Giuseppe
 - Date, event logistics, ceramic donations, auction, who it supports,
 - volunteers – sign up
 - Overview of Committee and Call to Join - Cara
 - Volunteers - sign ups
 - “Top Chef” Takeover - tbd
 - Food (Oct) and Clothing drive (Nov) – tbd
 - Feast day presentation! – tbd
 - Xmas Bags - Dick
8. Any last remarks?
9. Next Meeting: September 6, 2011