

Social Concerns Commission Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2006

Members Present: Sr. Toni Jendrasiak, Chris Frank, Rheda Jelen, Jerry Meyer, Carol Ray,
Betty Staeven, Carolynne Younk, Sharon Zambrowicz
Members Absent: Kathy LaLuzerne, Paul Pavlik

- I. Opening prayer by Carolynne Younk
- II. Approval of/additions to agenda
- III. Approval of minutes from last meeting
- IV. Parish council reports
 - A. St. Joseph has numerous blankets & sheets, which they will donate to the COTS program
 - B. Nothing to report from Annunciation or St. Jude
- V. Sr. Toni's report
 - A. Each of us received her report in a packet sent to us at home, which we read.
 - B. She recommended we join a "Circles of Diversity" group, if we get the chance.
- VI. Old business
 - A. Emergency needs of people who contact the parishes
 1. Establishment of an emergency fund was approved by all 3 parish councils; it will be funded by the Ash Wednesday collection.
 2. Brochures listing emergency resources in the community were handed out, and are now available in all offices and for all contact people in the parishes. People needing help should be referred to those agencies.
 - B. JOSHUA
 1. Fr. Don suggested we might want to wait with arranging a speaker for more info. until next fall, because there will be a major push then with "advancing the mission."
 - C. Guest speakers (Rheda Jelen and Jerry Meyer)
 1. Jerry Meyer said his daughter (head of NEW Comm. Shelter) would be happy to speak to our parishes and have us visit. After discussion, it was decided that we will try to set up an evening talk/tour at the shelter during Lent, with all parishes invited to attend.
 2. Carolynne Younk said she could coordinate speakers about special needs persons, if we want that in the future.
 3. After hearing information about it, we asked Sr. Toni to go ahead and try to set up a speaker she knows who is involved in the Global Partners: Running Waters, Inc. mission work.
 - D. Monthly dinners at NEW Community Shelter (Rheda Jelen)
 1. Rheda is serving dinner ON Christmas, and is in need of salads and desserts.
 2. Sr. Toni and Carolynne will try to get a group from St. Joseph to prepare dinner on Feb. 26.
 3. The Annunciation St. Vincent de Paul Society group has offered to serve dinner in one of the summer months. Carol Ray will report back next month whether Mon., July 23 will work for their group.

- E. Spring Spruce-Up (Carol Ray and Betty Staeven)
 - 1. We would like to hold this outreach program to help fellow parishioners with outside household/yard projects during the week of May 14-19.
 - 2. Timeline: March--place announcements in bulletin explaining program and inviting people to call or send in their needs for help.
April--place a tree with "ornaments" listing parishioners' needs; parishioners/families/groups interested in helping take an ornament, sign a log book so we know who took name, then contact the person to be helped to set up the time and job.
Mon., May 14 through Sat., May 1: Spring Spruce-Up
 - 3. People willing to receive calls from persons with needs are:
Annunciation---Carol Ray
St. Joseph---Carolynne Younk
St. Jude---Rheda Jelen
 - 4. This program will need to be approved by all 3 parish councils.

VII. New business (Sr. Toni)

- A. National Migration Week is Jan. 7-13.. Sr. Toni has posters to put in churches. We discussed purchasing prayer cards for parishioners, but decided against it because of the expense. We decided to put "Christ in Exile" reflections in bulletin
- B. Respect Life observances (Sharon Zambrowicz and Chris Frank)
 - 1. We agreed that Sharon and Chris can proceed with plans for a Spiritual Adoption program, to start in mid-January.
 - 2. We will collect baby items for the Love Life program in all three parishes during January.
 - 3. Sharon is putting finishing touches on a Love Life baby shower with a potluck supper and a speaker on Tuesday, Jan. 30.
- C. Next meeting will be at 6:30 on Thursday, January 4, 2007, at the St. Jude site.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Ray