**St. Vincent De Paul Society Meeting**

St. Faustina Chapter

October 17, 2020

**Members Present (Zoom):**

Dave Scharett, President.

Father Eversole, Spiritual Advisor.

Laura Morris (VP), John Morris, Annie Mason (Public Affairs), Cathy Lee, Don Carson (Treasurer), Susan Sablon Harrington, Jim Walsh (Dep. Treasurer), Michael March, Anne Ellis, Amy Whittaker (Secretary).

**Opening Prayer:** Father Eversole leads Our Father with a reflection on forgiveness by Dave Scharett.

**Spiritual Reflection:** Father Eversole presents the life and ministries of St. Vincent De Paul which highlights the broad mission of service from convicts to convents and monasteries, hospitals to schools, and outreach to the poor. A main impetus is the experience with a peasant who, in ill health and both material and spiritual need, provided St. Vincent the opportunity to be God’s instrument.

* Laura recognizes the connection between the peasant St. Vincent encounters and the Vincentians call to see those directly in need within the local community.
* Dave recalls that in home visitations, we are sent out “two by two” to minister.
* Father Eversole reminds us that the Body of Christ is reflected in the community of faithful serving the community-at-large.

**Item 1:** Rules of the Society with a focus on 1.2 and 1.3

* Service to anyone in need
* Seeking out the poor

Laura reflected that the outreach connects to individuals on a deeper level than mere data collection, which encourages the needy to open up into a relationship.

Members discussed the importance of Home Visitation, loneliness as another form of poverty and addressing this through other ministries such as Cherished Souls, differentiating between Good Samaritan’s Group that serves only parishioners.

Cathy Lee highlights the importance of Vincentian Faith, Friendship, and Service in working with teens in the youth chapter, modeling the importance of service in these ministries and encouraging their involvement.

Susan shared a quote, “Heroism consists of hanging on, one minute longer” and reflected how both those who serve and those who are served are fortified to persevere.

**Item 2:** The Age of Covid-19

* Anne Ellis shared that despite the challenges of restrictions due to the pandemic, services are still being rendered. She called for specific prayer for an expectant mother seeking aid.
* Dave stated that a coordinated effort was enacted for this lady

**Item 3:** Reduction of Administrative Costs and Fund raising

* Cancellation of insurance policy resulting in refund of 255.00.
* Securing insurance from St. Vincent De Paul Conference at a lower cost (209.00 per year).
* Use of electronic drop-box
* Grant Writing with an awareness, per Father Eversole, that any applications observe that there are no “strings” attached that violate doctrine.
* Annie suggested Walk for the Poor as a local way to generate donations.
* Dave spoke to KoC at St. Anthony and secured a 500.00 donation plus commitment from Pastor for contributions to needy via St. Anthony parish in King George County.
* Membership page on chapter website, designed by Annie, to facilitate ease in document transfers and acquisition, and file sharing amongst members.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Don Carlson

* National Report finalized
* IRS tax form completed for submission in February
* Don reminded members to be cognizant of providing him with documents and receipts for all and any donations. Receipts can be left at St. Matthew church office.
* Current Balance: 10,280.83
* Credit card payment: 76.16
* Father Eversole inquired about September donations, which were 2,000.00 and October currently tallied 1, 270.00.
* Don stated that a 22% fee was imposed on a 500.00 online donation and suggested a different funding transfer service be used.
* Susan shared that her employer makes an annual donation at the holidays and will email Dave when that is ready for pick-up.

**Secretary’s Report:** Amy Whittaker

* Old business including essential recruitment of volunteers for the Home Visitation Ministry.
* Anne is facilitating services through phone calls due to Covid-19 restrictions.
* Father Eversole and Dave offered ideas to share this service opportunity with parish via speakers at Masses, flyers, information and sign-up table after Masses, to include and address any concerns about service and Covid,
* Susan will help spearhead this effort and Cathy offered help.

**New Business**

* Writing and sending Thank You notes to donors; Don will send list, Dave suggested sending to KoC in King George, and Father Garcia at St. Anthony’s in KG.

**Closing Reflection:** Laura

**Closing Prayer:** Dave