

Minutes for the Human Concerns Committee  
May 17, 2017

Members in Attendance: Linda Bardele, Mary Benson, Cindy Chovanec, Meaghan Cleaver, Craig Griffie, Tom Heller, Judy Maret, Gerry Neugent, Steve Obscherling, Anna Retzke, Mary Sermersheim,

- The April 26, 2017 minutes were approved.
- It was decided after a short discussion that our responses to the reflection questions on "Who Christ King Parish is Called to Be" will stand as written. Cindy will give the final copy to Maggie Pernice. We spent quite a bit of time discussing these at our past two meetings. We will continue to pray on these reflections and focus on a journey to continue our mission to be better disciples. We will try to get more parishioners involved in so many worthwhile opportunities for volunteerism.
- The speaker from Kathy's House cancelled.
- Steve encouraged all of us to reflect on our personal and committee evaluations as we look forward to next year.
- Linda Bardele reported on Parish Giving for May. They are as follows: Rescue Mission, \$325, Dominican Center \$325 (They serve the 53206 area), Franciscan Peacemakers, \$300, The Guest House, \$500, Literacy Services of Wisconsin, \$400 (an increase from \$200)
- Habitat for Humanity: Gerry Neugent reported that the past year has been terrific. There were many great volunteers, and many families helped. A new house was completed for Dolores and her boys. She closed on May 11, and there will be a house blessing in June. Watch the bulletin for the exact date. A new home owner will be named in the next two months. Gerry and Kate sometimes have to wait for details from Habitat before scheduling monthly volunteers. The committee would like to tap into other groups to recruit more volunteers. We discussed some possibilities: people with older children, former graduates of Christ King School, Tosa Trio members, etc.
- Anna Retzke reported on Greater Tosa Interfaith. Amy DeDow is interested in getting younger people involved in volunteering, perhaps even middle schoolers. We discussed when would be the best time to recruit volunteers. It was suggested that Fall would be a good time as the new

school year begins. This would also align with Community Service Day in November. It was also suggested that people might consider January as a possible time to recruit as parishioners are making New Year's resolutions. There will be two opportunities for fundraising for Tosa Interfaith: May 31 at Culvers, and August at Pizza Piccola. Greater Tosa Interfaith will merge with SET ministries which is run by the Franciscan nuns in the St. Joe's area. Their focus is to work with residents to find public housing for the elderly and help them become independent. All of our donated funds will continue to go to Greater Tosa Interfaith.

- Anna Retzke also mentioned that Greater Tosa Interfaith has many resource materials to share on opportunities for seniors. We discussed possibly talking to the Hospitality Committee as to where would be a central place to house these and other resources so that they would be easily accessible for all.
- Food Drive: Judy Maret reported that over 125 bags of food were donated to the Tosa Food Pantry during the Lenten Food Drive. We discussed the possibility of donating to other food pantries "down the road" in addition to Tosa Food Pantry. There are many needs in four zip code areas of the City of Milwaukee. Judy also mentioned that Meier Foods supports "Simply Give" which is a program that helps to restock food pantries in the Milwaukee area. They do this four times per year. You can purchase a \$10 card at Meier and the proceeds go to "Simply Give." Tosa Food Pantry has received \$8000 from this program.
- Meaghan Cleaver reported that she will be meeting with Mr. Brown to discuss the possibility of providing new opportunities and projects for students to ramp up service hours. Mr. Brown is the Religious Education Director at Christ King School.
- Toiletries Drive: Sue and Luigi Schmitt distributed the collected toiletries to the Guest House, SVDP, and the Milwaukee Rescue Mission.
- Sue Schmitt sent the report on the CRS Rice Bowl contributions. \$1612.41 was collected this year compared to \$2582.46 in 2016.
- Rose Sale: Report sent from Amy Grau: \$621.00 was collected this year.
- Spring Clothing Drive: Mary Sermersheim reported that 78 bags of clothing were donated in additions to 23 hanging items and 8 boxes of items.

- Our Parish Library will now be part of the Formation and Discipleship Committee.
- Cindy submitted a document from Pat Josten for a possible speaker for our committee for the future.
- Reminder to submit your job descriptions to Steve Obscherning as soon as you can.
- Our group decided that we WILL NOT meet on May 31 as we felt that we had concluded our business for this year. Our next meeting will be in August.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Chovanec  
Secretary