

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINUTES

April 2, 2024 7:00 PM Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Wanda W., Jenn S., Pat S., Alice M.B., Julie D.B., Deanna K., Deacon Allen, Marie A., Cindy S., Ginny K. - Excused Chris H., Dee P., Therese R., & Tony W.

April & May Activities

Casa Hogar - Appears to be going ok, put on June's Agenda, no report from Chris H

Caring for the Earth - No update

Laudato Si - Care for Creation - Pope Francis - No update

The Exchange - No update

Place of Grace - Pat C. is purchasing groceries for POG and delivering them - no schedule of meals as of yet - put on June's Agenda

Social Justice Involvement Fair - Due to lack of time and volunteers this Fair has not been held in recent years. Deacon Allen suggested that the BSP SJ Committee meet with the RNP SJ Committee for an in-person meeting. It appears that both committees should be operating in dual mode - BSP's SJ Committee is different from the BSP Women's Club. An in-person meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, May 2nd at Newman for 6:30 PM. Ideas to think about: Review of RNP's SJ Calendar of Action (where do we overlap with BSP?), Agenda ideas for dual meetings, time & how frequent meetings should be scheduled & where to meet.

May Mental Health Awareness Month - Report by Julie D-B. Important documents that Julie shared should be sent out to the whole SJ committee. Julie will post two posters from these documents on the RNP Main Street kiosk. Also, mental health activity documents could be posted in the Sunday on-line bulletin. Documents will be posted at BSP also.

Side note: Dan & Mary Reckase helped to open the Folkshaven home where people with mental health issues can live while receiving treatment here in La Crosse. Question: How may we support or raise awareness of this home?

Aquinas High School is also starting a program to educate and assist young people in high school and middle school regarding mental wellbeing.

Social Justice Fundraiser - Art Fair on the Green - July 27 - Viterbo - Update from Wanda, announcements to pick strawberries will appear at the end of May in Sunday bulletins. Volunteer sign-up will begin in early July. We are looking for more volunteers to join in this fundraiser. Put on the June Agenda.

Ongoing Activities

Jail Ministry - No update from Dee P. Put on June Agenda

Bread for the World - Offering of Letters

Help is needed after each Mass at BSP & RNP. Marie A. will help after the 11:00 RNP Mass. Deacon Allen will find help for the 4:30 PM & 9:00 AM Masses at BSP. Wanda will have drop boxes, stamped postcards, pens and scripts as to what to write on the postcards. Information about Bread for the World is appearing in the on-line Sunday bulletin. If you wish to help contact Wanda W. For more information about Bread for the World - www.bread.org

SJ Finance Disbursement Report - No report from Chris H. Put on June Agenda

Anti-Violence: Human Trafficking - BSP is holding a plant sale May 18 to support Hosea's Heart, volunteers are needed

Winter Warming Center - No report from Tony W. One month to go ... volunteer or provide a meal with sign-ups on the RNP website or Sunday Bulletin

Updates:

Review Time & Talent Sign-Up - a new updated SJ Committee List has been created - new members have been added and those wishing to be removed have been

Birthright Baby Bottle Collection - Report from Julie D-B, ran from January to February at both RNP & BSP. \$355 was collected at RNP and \$981.30 from BSP, both collections were down but more so for RNP, there will be a Pro Life Group Conference in September here in La Crosse.

Food Drive - Approximately \$3,000 collected - no numbers on #'s - Food went to MN - Other agencies also benefited as reported by Deacon Allen.

Notice: Juneteenth Event - Riverside Park - Saturday, June 22, 2024 - We will need appropriate and like-new books to give out at this event. Especially need Toddler and Youth books. Volunteer for set-up starting at 11:00 AM - event starts at Noon and ends at 5:00 PM for SJ's **FREE** give-away tables of books.

Shared Story - Fellow RNP SJ member Ginny K. shared her situation regarding the moving of her mobile home from city owned property on the southside that is close to Pammel Creek. Ginny and partner have until June 24 to vacate the premises. Eighteen years of living in this double wide needs to be moved along with the trailer. Suggestions: Contact Coulee Cap, St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Onalaska, Mary Mother of the Church in La Crosse, The Exchange, Habitat Restore, Salvation Army. Work parties consisting of college students and younger people could be formed to help with moving and organizing (Marie A), Ginny just found out one week ago so as this develops SJ members will contact Ginny to see where help is needed. Ginny's phone numbers can be obtained from the RNP office and Sandy J.

Next SJ Meeting: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 - 7:00 PM - Virtual

