



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Board Meeting – Minutes February 28, 2024, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Presiding: Carole Johnson, President

1. Attendance:

Voting members present or participating virtually included: Carole Johnson, Lyle Gilbertson, Jeanette Aubuchon, Dave Little, Mary Murphy, John Stephan, Russ Struttman, Clay Whitener, Ruth Klenke, Rene Lorio, Mary Kreienkamp (proxy for R. B. Clark III), Christine Novalis, Judy Belford, Brenda Vanderford, Bernie Sammons, Yolanda Diaz, Kenneth Patterson and Paul Lodewyck. Voting members absent: Ellen Harshman, Meg Huber (Acting Mid-Central District President)

- SVdP staff present or participating virtually: Julie Komanetsky, Steve Poppe, Jason Coleman (Acting Director of Finance), John Fitzpatrick, Gena Bast
- Ex officio members: Fr. Dan Thiess (Spiritual Advisor)
- Quorum present: Yes

2. Welcoming Remarks – Carole Johnson

- Carole read a letter from John Foppe thanking everyone for their prayers, cards and best wishes along with an update on his recovery from surgery.

3. Prayer - Fr. Dan

4. Letter to Vincentians regarding an update on Accounting

- Following significant discussion, the issue was tabled for further review. One issue was inclusion of a reference or a link to previous communications on this topic over the past approximately 10 months, the intent being for readers to be able to refresh their memories regarding these communications. Board members are requested to provide input to Paul Lodewyck by Monday, Mar 4.

5. Resolution to pursue talent acquisition help to hire a Director of Finance & Accounting

- Given the struggle and delay of trying to hire a Director of Finance using internal resources, a resolution was approved authorizing the Council to retain outside services to recruit and hire a Director at a cost not to exceed 25% of the selected candidate's first year's cash compensation.

6. Establishing bank account for the new SVdP (St Louis City) Conference

- The Conference needs banking services and decided to use Commerce Bank, the same bank used by the Council.
- To establish full banking services, Commerce Bank requires a signature card to be signed by the Board Secretary.
- In the Board manual Delegation of Authority Matrix, the Finance Committee has the

authority to open new bank accounts, and the Committee has used that authority.

- However, in an effort to be more transparent on financial matters, the Board President wanted to notify the Board and ensure members were aware. John Stephan, as Board Secretary, will sign the signature card to establish banking services for St Vincent de Paul Conference.

7. Human Resources update: Effective February 26, Densie Chachere, Director of Human Resources, is no longer employed by the Society. She was involved in the initial search and screening of finance and accounting positions. Future organization of the department will be discussed when Vanada Sharma, the HR Generalist, returns from vacation on March 11.

8. Closing prayer - Fr. Dan

The Meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by John Stephan, Board Secretary