

THRIFT SHOP COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 11, 2011

Eleanor Bell; Dave DeReamer; Joe Fortin; Christine Hadersbeck; Thom Hill; Dion Jenks; Lou Mahoney; Lee Sturm (K of C); Francine Tobin; Paul DiBlasi; (Absent: Mary Greene)

9:15 Called to Order; Lou opened with a prayer.

Lou introduced Lee Sturm who represented the Knights of Columbus. Lee talked about the need to replace about 280 twenty-year-old chairs in The Family Center. The K of C has some discretionary funds to be used during the year for needs of various organizations but needs assistance with purchasing new chairs. He asked if the Thrift Shop could help in some way, possibly in directing customers to The Family Center to buy the old chairs. It was agreed that the Thrift Shop would not be involved with actually handling the transactions. The K of C needs about \$6500.

Minutes: The Minutes of the September Meeting were approved.

Financial Status: Dion reported that the total sales are as follows: \$4878 below budget for September and \$11,262.50 below budget for the year to date. Total Expenses were unfavorable by \$1453.90 in September and favorable by \$550.36 year to date. Net Income was unfavorable \$6959.53 for September and \$11,165.20 year to date.

Manager's Report: Christine advised that J & S Construction probed, cleaned and videoed the storm sewer that runs under the front parking lot, parallel to 278, west to the adjacent property owned by Richard Gray. The report states that the pipe is broken in two locations and is disconnected at a third. Lou will contact J & S for a cost estimate to dig up and repair the sewer line.

- Hilton Head Resort submitted a bill of \$950 to repair an elevator damaged by our truck drivers.
- To date 108 volunteers plus 22 paid guests have responded and will attend the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on October 30.
- We have 18 to 19 new volunteers in response to the recruitment drive over the September 17th and 18th weekend. 6 to 7 are trained and working; the rest will be brought on line.

The donation drive at Holy Family when our truck was there over the September 17-18 weekend was successful.

General Administration: Lou mentioned that he thanked Pat Rieck who left the Council due to the work load and other commitments.

Marketing: Thom told us that on Wednesday, October 19 there will be an ad in *Island Packet* featuring a picture of our truck and volunteers in front of the Thrift Shop noting the upcoming Christmas Village. On Sunday, October 30th, there will be an ad in *The Island Packet*, featuring a picture of the Christmas Village, announcing the "Grand Opening" on Tuesday, November 1. Thom and Christine will work on the ad.

There was a question about the area thrift shop brochures. Christine advised that she will drop off a check and pick up the brochures.

There will be a Christmas sale on December 8 and 9 at the school. Volunteers will be needed to help set up.

In response to a discussion about 50% off sales, Christine noted that they will be done on an as-needed basis in conjunction with availability of inventory.

Building & Maintenance: Storm sewer covered in Manager's Report. The slop sink and water line were discussed and tabled for now. We received only one bid; three other contractors did not respond to calls. The contractor will be contacted to provide the cost to just run a water line to the rear of the Shop.

Finance: Joe Fortin: In-kind donations year-to-date total \$5260. There have been many voucher requests through CS & J for clothing and household items. Joe was complimented on his complete record keeping.

Retail Sales & Merchandise Inventory: Dave noted that the 50% sale brought up the sales figures, but cautioned about customers expecting these sales.

Dave asked if the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner should be cancelled or postponed, explaining that he's had several comments about the money and conditions warrant the expense. He asked if maybe something simpler, e.g. cocktails, etc. Joe said that our cash flow is enough to handle the dinner. A vote was taken and it was agreed that we will go forward with the dinner as planned by a simple 4 to 3 majority.

Dave stated that the Volunteer Drive was successful in getting people to sign up and be trained. He suggested a "Bring-a-Friend" program; advertise in the newsletter and have a drive twice a year. Christine advised that the volunteer once-a-month drawing includes extra entries for those volunteers who recruit new people who then work with us.

There was a discussion about the Ministry Fair which will be held on Saturday, November 5th and Sunday, November 6th after Masses. Lou would like to have Thrift Shop volunteers at the Fair, after each Mass. Dave suggested that Christine be at the door to welcome and guide people who come to the Fair.

When asked about PayPal, Christine said that nothing more has been done.

New Business: The replacement on the Council will be Bob Soltys. The vote in his favor was unanimous.

The K of C chair situation will be up to Father Mike to decide how to proceed.

Adjourned at 10:20; closed with a prayer.

Respectfully, Paul DiBlasi