

HNC Outreach Committee Minutes for August, 2008

Present: Mark Kintner, Lauris Zeni, Bill Teale, Rick Garfield, John Greenman, Patty Kipps, Esther Gay, Lauren McDonald, Tom Gee, Gary Harvey, Bob Gay, Laurie Brown, Linda McGee.

Lauren opened with a prayer.

Rick presented information on Angels of Mercy (AOM). They are looking for 1000 sustaining members to donate \$100 each per year. This would provide \$100,000 for the 2008 budget increase (to be used in 2009). Sustaining members would be called "guardian angels".

AOM has 16 members on their Board, and the primary activity is fund raising. Foundation Grants were good this year, since salaries for new staff were included. Physical space has been doubled. However, it is very hard to convince churches to donate to new charities, so these donations have been very low. HNC gives almost 1/3 of donations from local faith based organizations..

Agreement that we need to hear from other charities we donated to last year, e.g. Spiritworks, Faith in Action. Laurie and Esther will contact them to speak to us in the next couple of months. Linda also suggested Avalon, and will invite them to speak to us.

Linda and Patty told of local "English for Speakers of Other Languages" (ESOL) classes that have been held locally, but are now cancelled due to lack of funding. There was discussion if we can assist in funding or in other ways. Patty will speak to Susan Smith, who directs the program, which is sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Richmond Office of Refugees and Immigration.

Mark reported on progress for the Fall Festival.

All chairs and co-chairs have been identified. Presently, Mark has no co-chair, but 4 people have told him they could be co-chairs next year and, presumably, chair in 2010. Nuggets will have request for volunteers, as well as information and sign up in the narthex. Posters are completed, and include a web site link. Attic Treasures are being collected in the newly waterproofed shed. Arts & Crafts and Silent Auction, and Bake Sale are coming along nicely. Linda stated she has made at least 5 dozen jars of blueberry jam to sell.

Food Committee: Slice-and-Dice will be Thursday evening. Cooking will be on Friday daytime and evening. There will be no all night cooking or prep. New tables have been purchased for Attic Treasures in addition to others we already own. Grounds clean-up will be the week before.

Charity display booths: Do these help in any way? The liaisons will contact each of our 3 main charities to ask if they want to do this.

Homeless Task Force update: Bob is chair for the 3 local Episcopal churches.

Memorandum of Understanding has been approved, but not yet finalized, with agreement to support 25 families. Salvation Army is working on a plan for how to do that. It will be

called "HELP of Williamsburg". Capt. Debbie Bowers will be conducting a 6 hour training for mentors for this program on Sept. 27. All county government officials have bought into this. Emphasis will be on preventing homelessness, and will focus on housing people who are almost homeless. There are presently 180 homeless children (according to the official definition of homelessness) in Williamsburg/JCC Schools, who are on the task force.

Vestry update from outreach Committee needed. Each liaison will do a one-paragraph report on their charity. This is needed by the second Tuesday of October.

Email from a parishioner noting that Grove Christian Outreach (GCO) is having a Capital Campaign to raise funds for a new building. Requests that GCO person speak to our congregation. No decision was reached on this. Laurie suggested putting a report on each charity in the Nuggets this fall.

Bob suggested that we transition to a calendar year for our donations, since we have some leftover funds this year. Use remaining funds for regular donations for the remainder of 2008, and from now on do calendar year donations. The committee voted to approve this suggestion.

From His Hands (FHH): We as a church have dropped the ball on this. We will pick it up again and do this meal for the last 2 quarters of this year, as we get dates. Gary recommended using the Grant funding for extra expenses for FHH, using it to purchase food for churches that can't afford to. Much food is donated. The committee authorized and approved Gary to use the \$800 for FHH as he sees the need.

Old Business: Lauren made suggestions about the book *What Every Church Member Should Know about Poverty*. Group decided to read the book on their own. Will discuss again at next meeting. Lauren had numerous copies of the book for members to take.

Another email from a parishioner, asking if we need an annual audit from each charity or tax information. We do need this information. Update on this at our next meeting, which will be on September 23.

Lauren closed with a prayer.

Submitted by Patty Kipps