

Present: Bill Teale, Chuck Jundt, Gary Harvey, John Greenman, Laurie Brown, Lauren McDonald, Pam Maloof, Patty Kipps, Rick Garfield, Tom Gee

Chuck opened with a prayer.

Spirit Works presentation by Executive Director, Jan Brown. Purpose of this non-profit organization is to live free of alcohol and drugs and to break the intergenerational addiction cycle. It is not a faith based or religious organization. There are programs for both children and adults. They held their first summer camp this year, with 25 at-risk children present, along with Youth Ambassador volunteers (older teens who have completed the program). This is one of only 2 camps like this in the country. Primary referrals come from treatment centers, and also from schools. They are starting a new program for those with dual disorders, a “dual recovery” group. They are also engaged in research projects with Emory University and with VA Tech. They now have weekly contact with inmates at the local jail, to assist in recovery as inmates are released back into the community. Primary financial support now is from a Colonial Services Board contract, supplemented by a Grant from the Williamsburg Community Health Foundation. Some programs are fee-for-service. They are also starting a fundraising business with popcorn sales.

Homeless Task Force update. The new coalition program, led by several local area agencies and a few churches, is slated to begin in January 2009. Salvation Army (SA) is looking for 5 additional apartments for additional families. New families will be selected by local Social Services agencies for this pilot program. Lauren will email the Memorandum of Understanding to committee members to review. Program directors are hoping to get presently participating church representatives to speak to other churches to help them to decide to buy in to this program. Bob Gay is HNC representative.

Salvation Army Mentor Training to aid persons at risk of being homeless will be conducted on Nov.15 from 9 to 4 at the SA office. There is a one year commitment required, and weekly contact is expected between mentor and mentee. We hope to get one or two mentors from Hickory Neck (HNC) to assist with this new initiative, which is part of the Homeless Task Force program. .

From His Hands update: Approximately 85 meals were recently prepared and served, and were very well received for the recent spaghetti dinner at Grove Christian Outreach. We are slated to do this ministry once each quarter. Discussion of how to get more parishioners involved in this, e.g. different groups at HNC could do it by turns (choir, vestry, youth, etc.). Lauren suggested that we soon get the dates on the church calendar for the next year.

New business: Food for the Poor is asking to speak to the congregation again. They were last here in May, 2007. The committee will decide this later, after we further discuss this and other non local aid requests, such as Mother Lauren's ministry and the Episcopal Development Fund.

FISH collection is now being coordinated by the McGees, and John Greenman volunteered to load and transport the (40-50) bags of food to the FISH office each month.

Gary will let us know when the last meeting of this year will take place, after committee members give him available dates. At the last meeting, we will determine how to donate the funds raised from the recent Harvest Festival, at which we netted \$10,743. We are also considering another fundraiser in the spring.

Lauren asked us to pray for and about the groups we are considering donating to, and to let Gary know if we have more donation requests from groups who have not presented to us.

Lauren closed with a prayer.

Submitted by Patty Kipps