

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES FROM JANUARY 4, 2010 MEETING

Present: Elizabeth Thweatt, Betty Ellis, Joel Loiacono, Sister Sharon, Eric Quontock, Ken & Carol Pelo,

Joel opened the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

It was announced that Marie Pizelo has resigned from the Committee. Joel expressed gratitude for her service on the Committee and we will have something for her in recognition at the appreciation dinner for volunteers in February. Marie will remain contact person at Womens Hearth.

The Minutes of the December meeting were accepted with the change that there were 400 tags taken for the Manger Project

MANGER PROJECT

What a success! A special thank you again to Elizabeth and Betty for organizing and delivering the gifts. Thank you notes were read from Womens Hearth and the Cathedral Plaza. Elizabeth compiled and passed out a list of each recipient place – what was brought and how many. Carol had prepared a notice for the bulletin about the results of the Manger Project. George Nossek from Ascenda spoke his thanks at the Masses on Jan 2-3. He was well received and people expressed an interest in the agencies that we served.

An on-going project – collect information from agencies we will help over the summer (number of men, women, and children). At our September and/or October meetings have people come and speak to us about the purpose and activities of their agencies. In the fall solicit volunteers from the parish to help make the tags ahead of time.

We discussed the difficulty that arose at having three different collections going on during that first part of Advent – manger project, altar society project, blankets for street people. Perhaps these could all be incorporated into the manger project with proper labels for each entity – and then they can be separated accordingly.

## SCOTT COOPER

Scott sent information the following:

January 1 – World Day of Peace

The New Year message from Pope Benedict is “If you want to promote peace, protect creation.”

Respect Life month – prayer intentions are distributed to parishes

- Mass at the Cathedral on Jan 22 at noon

celebrated by the Bishop. Luminary candles will be lit and evening prayer will be celebrated at the church entrance.

January 30 - Washington State Catholic Conference presentation on legislative issues will be held at St. John Cathedral. Bishop Martin Wells of the Lutheran church will be the speaker. Cost is \$15. Joel plans to attend.

March 16 – Joe Hastings will speak at Gonzaga U. on the Bible/Age of Globalization. Perhaps he may be available to speak at our Soup Supper either before or after his talk.

Justice for Immigrants. Bishop’s propose a postcard campaign. Committee recommends that these be passed out at church.

## LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Will be held Friday evenings of Lent – Feb 19, 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, 26. Carol and Ken have offered to make the soup again.

“Community Hunger” - hunger in general and its impact on children - will be the theme. Presentations at the supper will be made by area agencies who help feed the hungry.

Feb 19 – The Jesuit Volunteer at Catholic Charities who coordinates needy requests from the Cathedral. Joel will contact.

Feb 26 – Second Harvest Carol will contact (Stone Soup night)

Mar 5 – YWCA Eric will contact

Mar 12 and 19 – Joe Hasting and/or Bishop Skylstad Joel will contact

Mar 26 – SNAP Ken will contact

Joel will check with Father Steve about offering \$100 to SNAP, Second Harvest and the YWCA when they come. (That permission was granted.)

If any of the above agencies are not able to participate, we will also consider Calvary Baptist Kitchen and Women and Children Free Restaurant.

We will ask to speak at the Masses the weekend of Feb 6-7 to encourage attendance and volunteers to help with the Soup Suppers. Joel will speak at the 9 & 11 Masses. Sister Sharon at the Sat. eve. Mass. Bulletin announcements will be prepared also to solicit volunteers to help set up and

clean up – from 5:30-7:30pm. Members of the Committee will be present to assist volunteers:

Feb. 19 – Sister Sharon and Elizabeth

Feb. 26 – Joel and Elizabeth

Mar 5 – Sister Sharon

Mar 12 – Eric and family

Mar 19 – Eric and family

Mar 26 – Joel

#### SCHEDULE FOR COFFEE AND DONUTS

Jan. 17 – Betty and Eric

Feb 21 – Sister Sharon and Ken and Carol

Mar 21 - Joel

NEXT MEETING – February 1, 2010, 6-8pm. O'Connor Hall