

St. John Neumann Justice and Charity Commission

Meeting Minutes July 12, 2010

Present: Danielle Bass Molliver, Darrin Chance, Ann Hagberg, Sue Lovegreen, Phyllis Nickels, Kari Sethney, Mike Wold, Leslie Crichton, Bob Brezinski, Lorna Smith, Dennis Bechly

MN Friends of the Orphans ministry proposal: Sue Lovegreen - In 2002 SJN hosted Fiesta Grande. Since then, there has not been much involvement with the organization. This new ministry seeks to help build support between sponsors and their adopted children. Ministry goals are to:

- Raise awareness of various orphanage locations and work they do,
- Educate parishioners on the life of children in the orphanages
- Possibility of future mission trips to the orphanages
- Utilize speakers that come to the area from MN Friends of the Orphans
- Finding ways to connect our Spanish/Latino parishioners with sponsorship opportunities as well as assisting current sponsors with letter writing & understanding the various cultures of the adopted children.

** Ministry is not looking to fund raise, etc. rather building connections & support for families.

Action: New ministry approved. JCC will further connect for next steps. Proposal was placed in binder.

Website Update: - Dennis Bechly

Dennis along with J&C staff is currently working on getting ministry information on the Google calendar up to date. The ultimate goal is for the ministry leaders to be able to update the information directly themselves rather than send the information to SJN staff to be entered. JCC will be able to have its own calendar which the SJN website would be able pull the info from the Google Calendar. JCC has also revamped our web content and is working at launching changes.

Action: Current task is to collect important ministry information from individual ministries concerning what they want posted on the calendar and their info pages..

Out each Funding: - Danielle

Fr Charlie and Danielle had a meeting concerning Outreach Funding. Key highlights of meeting were:

- Fr Charlie is supportive of funding partnerships. He agrees it was unfortunate that funds were cut and wants to work together at reinstating partnership funding but only after clear parameters are set.
- Tithing is not how to calculate our giving as a church. Past proposals have not gone beyond this concept and what ensues is bad mathematics. Fr. Charlie was grateful for all the work that has been done and finally, a comprehensive list of how SJN monetarily gives back do our homework and actually begin to tally As a church we ask tithing of individuals but do not implement as an institution. All

we do encompasses giving back and there are many ministries/activities that are not duly reflected in such formulaic thinking. Partnerships should establish a budget line that is based on a trend from previous giving. The question will be how to get this reinstated and what can be done in interim.

- Potential future partnerships will need to have deeper connections with SJN. They must provide opportunities where our parishioners can engage in direct service opportunities such as Feed My Starving Children, etc. This would mean fewer organizations receiving more and greater accountability.

We need to approach Outreach Funding in a different way

Future Steps:

- * Look at partners which directly engage/educate our parishioners in charitable and justice activities
- * Create list of partners that fit these new parameters
- * Revamp proposal so that it honors all outreach already happening and allows for partnerships
- * Educate parishioners about the partners – promote partnerships
- * Send partnership recommendations to commission for final approval which would be reflected in Commission meeting minutes

Summit with Fr. Charlie: -We will meet as soon as we can this fall to finalize the discussion. It is a time for him to meet our new leadership. Also, we can work together to see what we can do in the interim where we have no budget for partnerships. He can council us on next steps for proposal. Most importantly though, we will conclude our discussion and have a final definition of partnerships implemented into our guiding principles and JCC tool book so that we can finalize how SJN will commit to outside partners. Danielle will work with Theresa on scheduling the summit meeting and Mary Defoe and Mike Wold have offered to help facilitate evening.

NEXT meeting: Monday, September 13th 2010

Meeting adjourned: 8:50 PM