

Social Awareness Ministry Minutes of Meeting – March 3, 2016

Attendees: Sr. Jean, Mike, Al, Michelle, Suzanne, Denny, Chris, Jacquie, Marjorie, Judy, Sally, Alan, Micki, Teresita, Carolyn, Irma, Mariallyn, Elizabeth, JoAnn, and Marilyn Nevins

1. Opening Prayer – Sr. Jean led a participatory prayer with Mike, Denny and Teresita assisting.
2. Minutes: The minutes were approved without corrections.
3. Potential new members were welcomed.
4. Updates
 - a. Refugee Ministry: Judy reported that 12 people are signed up to participate in training for this ministry. Since 20 are needed, an article will be published in the bulletin. The ministry would work for “snow birds” as well as full time parishioners. The group is also working on hosting a forum similar to the Immigration forum, to be held on a Sunday in Oct. or Nov.
 - b. Casa Maria: Elizabeth reported on projects they hope to accomplish such a replacing carpeting with tile or laminate, erecting portable screens and privacy curtains for nursing treatments, adding additional seating and a ramada over the food area. They are looking for volunteer handymen and electricians to help. They need a priest to say Mass on the 3rd and 5th Mondays. Father Peter will help. Al reported that volunteers continue to go to Casa Maria the 3rd Wed. and Fri. with 6-8 people participating each time.
 - c. Just Coffee: Al reported that Just Coffee sold 95 pounds during the last month. They will sell on the 3rd weekend of the month for the next year, with the exception of December which will be the 2nd weekend of the month.
 - d. Manna Bags: Twenty-five bags were sold and bags were available at the SAM meeting.
 - e. Sr. Jose’s Women’s Center: Sr. Jean reported that the financial results of the Annual Luncheon would be available at the group’s next meeting on March 10th. Mike asked all ministry members to attend the public hearing on 3/31 at 6:00 pm at City Hall to support Jean Fedigan as she seeks zoning approval for the new location for Sr. Jose’s.
 - f. Immigration/Border: Mike reported that Fr. Sean Carroll has agreed to preside at all masses on May 14/15 to address efforts in working with immigrants/refugees. A second collection will be taken for the Kino Border Initiative. Denny and Michelle will continue with ongoing education of the parish through articles in the bulletin.
 - g. CCS/Alitas and Casa Mariposa: Members received a list of items needed for immigrants held at detention centers.
 - h. SAM Brochure: Mike and his group plan to meet March 10th to revise the brochure.
 - i. Acceptance of people of all sexual orientation: Fr. Greg Weist has been invited to lead a forum on this topic and has accepted. The forum will be held on Sunday, Oct. 16th, from 2:00 – 3:30. A suggestion was made to include a

family member of an LGTB person. If SAM members have questions they would like discussed at the forum, they should direct them to Mike.

- j. Addressing Islamphobia: Sr. Jean contacted the Diocese to determine their initiatives, but nothing is pending. Mike contacted Sr. Leonette of the Diocese to seek her assistance. SAM has invited Professor Scott Lucas, an Islamic speaker from the U of A, to give a 20 minute presentation at our next meeting. Parish Council members and parish staff members will be invited to attend.
5. New Business/Other Concerns
- a. Volunteers were solicited to distribute the book, "Rediscover Jesus", during the Easter masses.
 - b. Collection for Prison Ministry: Gift cards/cash is needed for those leaving prison. It was suggested that Poor Box money be used for this need.
 - c. Repeat Immersion Trip to Mexico: The group agreed that the trip should be offered again. JoAnn agreed to coordinate this trip to be held in the fall.

Next Meeting Thursday, April 7th, at 1:00 pm

The meeting closed with a prayer at 2:26 pm.

JoAnn Weston, Secretary, Pro Tem