

St. Mel Justice and Peace Council

Minutes of the Meeting

April 14, 2011

Present:

Nancy Gruenfelder, Chairperson
Stephen Gruenfelder, Vice Chair
Pia Varni, Media Coordinator
Elenita Lesperance
Norm Roberts
Adele Funari

Excused Absence:

Msgr. Helmut Hefner, Pastor
Marge Driscoll
Vince Thorpe
Irene Mclsaac, Secretary

Unexcused Absence:

Jack Collins

- I. **Opening Prayer** – Pia Varni
- II. **Review/Approval of Minutes of 2/11. M/S/C**
- III. **Status of on-going activities:**
 - A. **Pastoral Council Update** – Nancy Gruenfelder – Big push for Called & Gifted 1/20,21-2012; Also Missal changes in Mass re English Long Mass 1st week of Advent. Mary Beth Lutz OK's volunteer hours be earned for J&P Council service.
 - B. **Bags in the Baskets** – Vince Thorpe (In Absentia) – February – Guadalupe Center needs food: especially rice, macaroni, pasta; reports that volunteers needed at 5 p.m. Saturday Mass to hand out bags.
 - C. **SVdP** – Jack Collins – No report.
 - D. **Guadalupe Center/Oasis** – Adele Funari – Guadalupe Volunteer Retreat 5/14/11 with Ross Porter: "Challenges in Living and Giving." 5/20/11 Annual Orcutt Dinner where Trader Joe's will be honored.
 - E. **Community Outreach Research Update** – Irene Mclsaac – (In Absentia) has received one parishioner application for J&P Council membership.
 - F. **J&P Council Power Point Presentation** – Stephen Gruenfelder – Coordination going forward with Multi-Media Ministry to produce on a Sunday in the near future.
- IV. **Projects and New Business**
 - A. **A Proposal in response to our year long investigation into feeding the hungry** - Chairperson presented proposal to begin the "Brown Bag Bunch", after relating Sandwich Story told in Pastoral Council last. The "BBB" would gather together St. Mel Parishioners, starting with the J&P Council, to prepare a brown bag meal of sandwich, chips, fruit, etc., for distribution at a Sun Valley park location on an assigned date for the purpose of helping to feed the hungry and homeless. Volunteers may also wish to serve a one dish meal like spaghetti and salad along with the lunch bags. J&P Council voted unanimously to pursue this goal. Nancy and Stephen will coordinate and organize the details.
 - B. **Operation Rice Bowl** - Pia Varni reported program is going according to plan. Thanked all those who spoke at Masses and those who helped distribute Rice Bowls.
 - C. **Prison Officers, Crime Victims and the Prospects of Sentencing Reform by Joshua Page** - Norm Roberts presented an abbreviated version of the Driscoll letter detailing the various problems in the California State Prison System. This version would be placed in a Sunday Bulletin pending Msgr. Hefner approval, and the enlarged Driscoll version would be placed on the J&P Council Website. Msgr. Hefner

(in absentia) recommended a speaker in this regard be added to the J&P Council Speaker Series at a future date. A motion was **M/S/C** to proceed with all of the foregoing.

D. Justice & Peace Council sponsored Coffee and Donuts 5/15/11 - Stephen will coordinate. This will help to promote J&P Council as a ministry and seek new membership. Sign up sheet to follow on emails.

E. Norm Roberts motioned that all further reports from absent members be provided in written format and faxed or emailed to the Council Chairperson before the designated Council meeting. M/S/C

V. Chairperson Adjournment and Closing Prayer.

VI. Next Meeting: Thursday, May 12, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Stephen Gruenfelder, Vice Chair