

## Haiti Committee Minutes

January 11, 2015

In attendance: Jim Benedict, Paul Dierdorf, Marcia Frampton, Larry Hofmann, Dennis Hogberg, Anne Knasel, Mike Knasel, Joan McDonald, Jeff Sanborn, August Sanusi, Kathy Smith, Janet Stack

### **Action items are in bold type**

Anne Knasel called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Larry Hofmann offered the opening prayer. Attendee introductions were made.

### Finance Report

Paul Dierdorf reported that in December we had income from donations, sponsorships, and coffee/card sales totaling \$56,957.50. We had \$16,496.49 in expenses. The fund balances at this time are: 1) Medical Clinic – \$41,947.14; Loan Fund - \$4600.00; Water Committee (Jeff Sanborn donation) - \$2,500.00; General Fund - \$50,325.20. There is another \$2500.00-3000.00 in income expected in January.

It was agreed that the Loan Fund for the soap project would be sent as there have been no further concerns from Fr. Ilric. **The funds will be sent directly to the account set up for the project.**

### Coffee

Jim Benedict reported that we sold 202 bags of coffee in 2014 yielding a profit of \$559.00.

### Crafts and Cards

Joan McDonald reported that the profit from the Alternative Gift Fair was \$1922.25.

### Sponsorship

Marcia Frampton reported that income for December was \$6325.00. Total income for 2014 was \$68,431.00, which was approximately the same as it was for 2013.

### Holy Comforter

Anne reported that income from Haiti envelopes was \$1897.00. Holy Comforter also sent some sponsorship money to St. Thomas. They received \$2055.00 in donations for the medical committee on the weekend that Fr. Ilric spoke. They also received \$232.00 in coffee sales over two weekends.

### Sea Container

Kathy Smith reported that all the boxes are in Bob Fromm's garage. Current possibilities for shipping include Memphis, Medical Missionaries, or Mr. Denton, who may work on the clinic project.

### Medical Committee

About 85 people attended the information dinner. There is a donor who has offered the cost of the power for the clinic. It will require a roof that is strong enough to support the solar panels. There was discussion about the need for security for the solar panels, which are often stolen in Haiti.

A system to thank all donors to the project will be developed when a donor list is received. Joan suggested that the starfish gift with the parable be included in the thank you letter.

August Sanusi reported that Fr. Joseph has asked for a moratorium on special appeals. August suggested that we should pursue grant possibilities for more funding. He also suggested doing a short presentation for the Knights of Columbus. **Dennis Hogberg said he would look into this.**

Larry Hofmann reported on the Diocesan policies that he and John Stack have been learning about in monthly meetings in Richmond. Larry emphasized that the procedures, while demanding, are necessary to prevent mistakes. He spoke of the dangers of moving too quickly on our own and perhaps failing to complete the project. The forms that should be submitted are lengthy and complex, and there was feeling that it is a lot to ask of volunteers. However, it was agreed that we should do our best to avail ourselves of this support. Anne and Mike Knasel will travel to Haiti this month and will obtain a good deal of information about the project options while there. This will help us to move forward with our planning. Larry pointed out that many volunteers would be needed to complete this process, as there is a lot of information required. Anne suggested that we should aim for beginning the renovation work on the building by the summer if at all possible.

### Travel

**Anne and Mike will travel to Haiti from January 22-30.**

The CSM students are tentatively planning to go during spring break with Fr. Stephen.

### Water

Mike reported that the water fund now has \$2500.00 donated by Jeff Sanborn, which will be matched by his company. **Mike will continue to seek financial support from Rotary and other sources.** He is also hoping to fund more latrines.

The next meeting was set for February 22, possibly at Holy Comforter.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40. Anne offered the closing prayer.

Minutes recorder: Janet Stack