

## Haiti Committee Minutes

March 10, 2013

In attendance: Kate Burke, Paul Dierdorf, Bob Fromm, Alice Grasewicz, Kristen Heinan, Tom Herlihy, Anne Knasel, Mike Knasel, Joan McDonald, Joe Monaghan, Robert O'Brien, Terri Powers, Vince Powers, Jeff Sanborn, Mary Simonette, Kathy Smith, Janet Stack, John Stack, Monica Walker, Mary Woloski, Mike Woloski, Ginny Zeller

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

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

### Father Ilric

Anne reported that Fr. Ilric never received our February payment. The NJ bank says it was sent to Fonkose, but they say they never received it. **Anne will follow up.**

Fr. Ilric still does not have his vehicle. Apparently there is a customs fee of about \$1000.00, which must be paid before it can be released. Anne suggested that she felt the Bishop should pay this fee since the vehicle will be owned by him.

### Financial Report

Paul Dierdorf reported income of \$7000.00 in February and expenses of \$6500.00. There is \$38,387.00 in the general fund. Ginny Zeller reported that Holy Comforter sent \$5368.00 between 4/24/12 and 1/24/13.

### Coffee Sales

Mike Woloski reported sales \$151.00 in February. Volunteers are scheduled for March sales, but will be needed for April.

### Sponsorship Program

Tom Herlihy reported that 12 renewals were sent out this month and 4 have been returned so far. In February 48 were sent and 42 renewals were received. At this time 43% of the 958 children are sponsored.

**Ginny Zeller reported that they may do a sponsorship fair at Holy Comforter in April.**

### Annual Gathering

Plans for the 3/16 Haiti Gathering were discussed and a sign up sheet for volunteers was circulated. Setup will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Friday afternoon. A representative from the

Haiti Commission will be there to assist. Approximately 175 people are expected to attend.

### Medical Missionaries

Anne announced that the annual MM fund raiser will be held Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Knights of Columbus in Manassas. Anyone interested in attending should notify Anne.

### Fabric Donation

Corinne McHugh has donated 6 boxes of fabric. **Mary Simonette will see if it will be useful for making bags for the students.**

### Agriculture Report

Bob Fromm reported that he conferred with Larry Hofmann's brother about the broken pump and has concluded that it is worth repairing. The cost will be approximately \$650.00. **Bob is planning to go to Saltadere for a week or more in May.** He will need several days for the pump repair and will then work on the clean water project. Bob has explored the possibility of getting a USAID grant for this project, and will need to get very detailed information for the proposal while he is in Haiti. He would like to increase the pipe size from 4" to 8" if possible. It was suggested that the UVA engineering students might be able to help with this. The Mapping Center at UVA can determine all the distances and heights of the area and produce a good map of the area. Bob hope that the AID people in Haiti might meet with him in Saltadere while he is there.

### Computers for Haiti

Monica Walker reported that the Computer Committee has produced a draft proposal for the computer project that they hope to discuss with the Haiti Education Fund. A copy of the draft has been sent to Paul Fuchs. The present concept involves providing an incentive to teachers in the schools to finish their high school equivalencies by giving them a computer and providing training on its use. At the successful conclusion of the certification the computer would become theirs.

### New Lectio Divina

Kate Burke announced that she hopes to conduct her program at St. Thomas this summer and include any interested Haiti committee members.

The next meeting will be on April 21st at St. Thomas Aquinas at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20. Terri Powers offered the closing prayer.

Minutes recorder: Janet Stack