

Church of the Nativity
VOICE Buffalo Social Justice Team Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2008

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Present: Linda Heffley, Nancy Kresge, Linda Siddons, Helen Cyrulik, Pastor Dan Scheffling, Sherrill Quinn, Carol Horvath.

1. Opening Prayer: Pastor Dan
2. Acceptance of Old Minutes: reviewed and accepted.
3. Organizing People: need to schedule one-on-ones. Ongoing project.
4. Evaluations: Table Talk; Maria Whyte "Poverty" program; Joseph Heary, Friends of Night People. Positive feed back; need for follow up?
5. Next Steps: Rest of year is full. Restart in 2009. Discussion of what to do: follow legislative bills, environmental/regionalism topics; youth have a different perspective—they have divergent thinking, bring back something, what can we actually do something about? Action step? Know how to get involved. Suggested we support agenda of Maria Whyte and work on it with her. Maria is working on regional planning board for Erie County. Show "Sprawl" DVD again—what affects city affect suburbs. Home Rule law in NYS. Work on concrete matters—we can make a difference. Do service projects—working to change what is or what should be.
Sr. Sharon Presentation—we choose 1/18/2009 date -- "Care of Creation". Committee to do coffe hour that day also.
Ad Hoc Committee beginning in November to begin discussion on Gamaliel Report. VOICE Buffalo is an affiliate to Gamaliel Foundation. We pay to the foundation. Handout given of pages 8-11 of report. Linda Siddons has complete report and is reviewing it. Review of organization done at Foundations request; some findings include: using outdated model, "agitation" principle, people have stopped coming to meetings. We believe we need to change model to a more "collaborative" model. Want common values of urban, suburban, Catholic, others in community to be part of VOICE Buffalo. Use report as a positive tool to help VOICE Buffalo survive.
6. Organizing Money: ICD-start soon. Pecan sale: 1# bag for \$8.50—delivery 10/20.
7. Upcoming Meetings: Our meeting: 10/13 at 7pm.
Public Meeting: October 16. 7pm at St. Martin DePorres Church,
555 N. Hampton Street, Buffalo. Pastor Dan sent letters inviting individuals to come. Will ask youth, confirmation class and use lists from table talk, and program. Will do follow up phone calls. Will car pool from church, be ready to leave at 6pm.
VB Monthly Meeting—10/20, place TBA.
8. Partnership for Public Good Dance: October 4th. Asked to come and support them.
9. Evaluation and Prayer.

Meeting adjourned: 8:30pm
Submitted by Helen Cyrulik