



E-News

May, 2016

Annual Meeting Summary

At our Annual Meeting in February, the Financial Report for 2015 showed that we ended the year in the black. The annual Clerk and President's reports were received and accepted. New member Nancy Carini was elected to serve on the Board of Directors. Kathleen Dayan, Janice Palmer-Tarbox, and Francis Mand were re-elected to new terms. For the full President's Report for 2015 go to our website – <http://plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org>

Note: at our May meeting, Scott Downie was also elected serve on the Board.

Overnights of Hospitality

It has been six weeks since we ended our Overnights of Hospitality. By all accounts, the season went very smoothly under our new relationship with Fr. Bill's/Mainspring which provided us with a paid chaperone, a van for transporting the men to the sites, and a cleaning crew.

A shout out to Fr. Bill's staff and to Ray Tompkins, Jeanne Hunter-McCartin, and First Baptist for taking on thirteen weeks to host and to Christ Church for hosting five weeks. Tedd Gwilliam and Scott Downie are to be specially commended for serving as chaperone many nights. Thanks to Nancy Carini and her crew at Second Church for doing the laundry every week. Also a huge thank you to the many volunteers who served as the second chaperone and to the meal providers. The use of MealTrain Plus was a big help in scheduling volunteers.

Lastly thank you to First Parish, Duxbury, Church of the Pilgrimage, Zion Lutheran and others who made special financial contributions to cover the additional costs for this past season.

Some statistics - Our average per night was 9.2, down from 13.2 the previous season. We had no nights for which we went over 19 guests – a big difference from the last two seasons. We provided 1,717 shelter beds. Forty-three different guests appeared through the season, and finally we had close to 200 volunteers

from nineteen congregations, community groups, and members from the community at-large.

Housing

We were notified through Fr. Bill's/Mainspring that there were to be two types of vouchers for housing available by lottery. We were worked diligently to get our guests to complete application forms. Fortunately, there were 35 slots available for Mass Rental Voucher program (MRVP) but there were only 34 applicants. So pending final approval, it looks like five of our guests will be receiving these vouchers!

The other voucher program is building-based in Brockton, so most of our guests chose not to go there.

Two other gentlemen were able to move on into other housing on their own.

Fundraising

Golf Tournament

Our Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, August 22, 2016 at Souther's Marsh. It is not too soon to think about gathering a team, donating an auction item or becoming a sponsor. Last year, we raised over \$14,000 for the Taskforce. Watch your email for further details.

Walking Home

At our March meeting, Frank Mand described his intention to walk across America, beginning in 2017 and ending back in Plymouth -2019 to coincide with the beginning of the 2020 celebration of the Plimoth colony. He wants to donate any funds that he raises over and above his costs to the Taskforce. He presented a proposal for us to be fiscal sponsors which means that we will be the conduit for accepting donations and covering costs on his behalf. A draft of this proposal was presented and accepted in form at our May meeting. Go to <http://www.walkinghome.us/author/frank/> to read more about Frank's project.

Amazon Smile

We now can raise money through Amazon's Smile program. Amazon will give us 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. Go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and follow instructions. You will need to choose Plymouth Taskforce for the Homeless (old name). Be sure to make the AmazonSmile your 'go to page' when purchasing goods from Amazon.

Website

Check out our website:

<http://plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org>

Facebook

We are also on Facebook. Go to our website <http://plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org> to like us!

Etc...

Please be sure to let us know if you change your email address or if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.