

Sheen Housing Foundation Notes 10th Anniversary

By MICHAEL GRODEN

The 1978 annual meeting of the Bishop Sheen Housing Foun-

Monroe County. There were two grants given outside the county and another is now being reviewed. She promised that efforts to extend service would continue.

Ministries, congratulated members for their work in 1977-78, and reminded them that although the agency may seem small in comparison to other groups, they have a "unique voice of authority," even in dealing with federal officials.

DeGregorio, George Entz, Michael Fitzpatrick, Victor Hadeed, Mary Miskell, Diane Cusolito Moonan, Father George Wiant, Rev. Ivory

Simmons, Father William Spilly, Sister Mary Wintish, RSM, and Robert DeGregorio.

Board officers are

Georgia DeGregorio, president; Lewis Childs, vice president; George Entz, secretary; and Michael Fitzpatrick, treasurer.

dation had speical meaning for its members. It marked the tenth anniversary of the foundation, some seven years beyond the national life expectancy of similar agencies.

Bluhm, Eleanor outgoing foundation president, attributed the longevity to a "spirit of enthusiasm (among members) in helping poor people acquire homes."

Foundation members met last Thursday evening at Becket Hall to report on the past year's activities and elect new board members and board officers.

The Sheen Foundation, founded in 1968, is a nonprofit institution dedicated to helping families secure mortgages through grants to be repaid "over a period of years," and providing seed money for other housing agencies.

Ms. Bluhm noted that a significant step" made this year was an extension services outside of

R. Michael Fitzpatrick, foundation treasurer, reported that the agency had a good year finandially. He said that the agency had \$76,000 on hand but some \$59,000 could be used for grants "very shortly." The "pay back figure" was good due mainly to "gentle reminders" from the foundation.

Mary Miskell, reporting for the Home-Ownership Committee, said that the committee processed 30 applications. This represented a sharp decline from the previous year due mainly to a moratorium on applications until a ruling by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was made. The decision, which would allow the foundation to give grants with non-legally-binding pledges of repayment, was finally approved.

Charles Father diocesan Mulligan, director of Social

Father Mulligan cited the HUD decision as an example. He said that the non-binding idea was "immediately favorable to" Sen. Daniel Moynihan, Rep. Barber Conable and Rep. Frank Horton and that all three showed "genuine en-thusiasm" for the plan.

Bishop Joseph Hogan ended the meeting by reminding foundation members that much work remained. He expressed his hope that the Sheen Foundation would continue its work snd said that he "was especially pleased with the expansion of Sheen Foundation assistance outside Monroe County.

Foundation members also elected their Board of Directors. They are Eleanor Bluhm, Lewis Childs Jr., Richard Crossed, Georgia

