

Habitat for Humanity of Merced County Board Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2016

Meeting Location: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Library

2916 McKee Rd., Merced CA

Meeting # 267

President (Administration Chair): Jan Sorge	present
Vice President: Michelle Paloutzian	present
Secretary (Public Relations Chair): George Gallaher	present
Treasurer: Patti Houbein	present
Construction Chair: Lyle Allen	present
Family Selection/Partnership Chair: Nellie Venegas	present
Finance Chair: Donna Hall	present
Site Selection Chair: Don Spiva	present
Member at Large: Pete Delacruz	present
Member at Large: Fred Pillsbury	present
Member at Large: Brittany Oakes	absent
Member at Large: Sean Arnold	excused
Member at Large: Ida Johnson	absent

6:30 p.m. Call to order for ReStore Report by Lyle Allen, Jan Sorge, President.

Restore Update: Lyle reported on a meeting he and Jan attended with Mike Mast and Dan Brunger of Kings View. The Building we may use is full of cardboard which is currently experiencing a depressed price. The gentlemen from Kings View expressed the ideal of using cargo containers to store our materials or obtaining a steel building from a local vendor that occasionally has such buildings to donate. Lyle wants the building team to contact Dan and work on plans for shelving and store layout. Lyle will contact Mike and Dan and discuss options for their current employees. Lyle will validate his assessment that Kings View needs to find something for their employees to stay gainfully employed. Lyle will report back at the next meeting. Meanwhile the building team will continue to plan for optimal use of the space, look into the use of cargo containers or a steel building. Lyle stated that the committees can continue to plan for the various areas assigned. Lyle stated that good progress has been made in all areas.

6:42 p.m. Regular meeting call to order, Jan Sorge, President.

Devotion: Donna shared devotion from Nehemiah 2:20 about always building and watching.

Always Building and Watching

By Michele Howe

"The God of heaven will give us success." Nehemiah 2:20

Lately, I've been relating a lot to the Old Testament character Nehemiah who felt physically exhausted, emotionally spent, and spiritually opposed (and I'm not trying to

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rebuild a wall...just be faithful to the small stuff God has called me to do). As I read about the circumstances surrounding this unflinching soul who labored long and hard despite opposition from many forces, I am struck by this man's focus on his objective to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem (no matter what).

No doubt, Nehemiah, like all of us, caught the glorious vision of restoring what enemies had destroyed, for God's honor and as a testimony of hope for the future of God's people. When he realized the depth of destruction that had occurred, Nehemiah sat down and wept. Sound familiar? I wonder how many of us have the same reaction to --- the national news, our local news, even to daily reports from our closest friends and family?

Of course, the appropriate reaction to any report of injury, loss, and destruction is to sit down and weep. But Nehemiah didn't stop with the natural reaction; he took the news of the catastrophe and went straight to God.

Nehemiah's bold prayer of faith, of great expectation even, is the kind of prayer I'm offering up to the Lord these days because I know my one and only hope lies in the deliverance that God alone can supply.

Reading about the days that followed Nehemiah's gathering of workers and supplies, I marvel at not only how hard they worked, but how they worked --- each one with his weapon in his hand. Nehemiah and his people were always building and watching. In other words, they had a job to do, but they were wise enough to stay on alert to the dangers that always accompany a work of faith (seen and unseen).

"But I (Nehemiah) prayed, 'Now strengthen my hands.'"Nehemiah 6:9

Nehemiah, terrific leader that he was, proved himself strong in faith as well as street smarts. He knew instinctively what I often forget. God can call us to a work; but it's up to us to make sure we have our equipment, our supplies, and our weapons at the ready because opposition is always lurking just outside our line of vision.

For me, when I have a job to do, my best work (for God) comes only after I've counted the cost and prepared for the task at hand. For all of us, preparation comes in many guises...and there'll be a price to pay, a burden we willingly take on, and sacrifices we'll gladly make the moment God calls us. And yet, we can only complete the job with God's sovereign intervention.

He puts the burden upon our heart to accomplish for Him something we can only do through Him...and each step of the way, with our hand upon our weapon (of faith), He gives us the gift of conscious reliance upon His moment by moment provision. We're only truly suited for serving well when we truly understand the depth of our dependence upon Him.

Excused absences: Sean Arnold

Guests: No guests.

April minutes: Lyle moved and Fred seconded accepting the April minutes as presented with the changing of the date for the special meeting from April 25th to May 2nd. Motion Carried

Financial report: Patti stated that Aurora is supposed to attend this evening's meeting after 7:00 when she gets off work. Everyone except Aurora is up to date. Aurora has wrecked her car which is probably part of her troubles, but she still needs to communicate with the board when there are going to be missed payments. Isabel's note is reflected on the books as project one. She has already made a \$350.00 payment. Patti will check with the city on the bond. Patti is checking on liability insurance. Jan will print a certificate of insurance for St. Paul Church. Budina is keeping up with her payments. Patti will take care of depreciation and have a more detailed list of income and expenses by our next meeting.

Family Services: Jan suggested that families be assigned to each member of the committee as a way to relieve part of the burden on Nellie.

Site Selection: Don reported the lot on Oleander could be divided into three building sites. The lot is approx. 19,000 square feet. Don can find no evidence of city sewer lines. The owners are willing to sell the lot for \$53,000. Don still has a lot on West Avenue for \$35,000.00. Don will e-mail board members the approx. cost for fees and utilities for both lots. We have \$100,000 available in HUD funds. Need to be careful with new construction as we would have to provide three bids for labor and materials. Can purchase lots at appraised value and do site prep such as sidewalks without three quotes.

Restore business plan: Golf Tournament fundraiser: Don reported that we need more hole sponsors. Several board members indicated a willingness to sponsor a hole. Don will serve sliders for lunch and have many gifts need more prizes. Don hopes for between 80 and 100 golfers. Jan wants to advertise the tournament in the summer newsletter. Others on the board stated that advertising needs to be done on several levels.

Administration: Jan reported on the Chamber of Commerce event. She won a door prize which she will donate to the next partner family.

Public Information: Michelle asked to have a RSS feed placed on our website so that it will be easier to access the newsletter online.

Construction: See the ReStore report above.

Church Relations: Jan will send out a newsletter to churches concerning the golf tournament, "Brush with Kindness", and the ReStore.

Volunteers: No report.

Recruitment: No report.

Unfinished & New Business: Jan asked for guidance on Brittany and Ida. Both have missed many meetings. Jan will inform Brittany that she will be removed from the board at the next meeting. Jan will speak with Ida and assess her commitment and report back.

Meeting adjourned: 7:54 George Gallaher, Secretary

Habitat for Humanity of Merced County, Inc.
Monthly Board Meeting Sign-in May 23, 2016

- 1 George Galadun
- 2 Patti Houlihan
- 3 Nellie Venegas
- 4 Lyle Allen
- 5 Pete Delacruz
- 6 FRED TILSBURY
- 7 Michelle Paloufzian
- 8 Jan Argy
- 9 Donna Hill
- 10 Don Sam
- 11 _____
- 12 _____
- 13 _____
- 14 _____
- 15 _____
- 16 _____

Calendar:

June 27 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran Library
Devotion: Lyle

July 25 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran Library
Devotion: Michelle

August 22 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran Library
Devotion: Pete

September 26 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran Library
Devotion: Sean

September 30 – Friday 8:30 a.m. Golf Tournament – Rancho Del Rey, Atwater

October 24 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran Library
Devotion: Nellie

October 29 – Saturday 5:30 p.m. Annual meeting/potluck, St. Paul Lutheran

November 28 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran Library
Devotion: Ida

December 26* – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Christmas gathering – bring appetizers to
Share – short board meeting. At the home of Jan & Larry Sorge
Devotion: George

*May have December meeting on a different date. Board will make a
determination in the future.