

Habitat for Humanity of Merced County Board Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2016

Meeting location: St. Paul Lutheran Church Library

2916 N. McKee Rd. Merced CA

Meeting #270

President (Administration Chair) Jan Sorge	Present
Vice President (Recruitment Chair) Michelle Paloutzian	Present
Secretary (Public Relations) George Gallaher	Excused
Treasurer: Patti Houbein	Present
ReStore Resource Chair: Lyle Allen	Excused
Family Selection/Partnership Chair: Nellie Venegas	Present
Finance Chair: Donna Hall	Excused
Site Selection Chair: Don Spiva	Present
Member at Large: Pete Delacruz	Present
Member at Large: Fred Pillsbury	Present
Member at Large: Sean Arnold	Present
Member at Large: Ida Johnson	6 month sabbatical

6:30 p.m. Call to order by Jan Sorge President.

Devotion: Pete Delacruz shared a devotion titled: "No Worries". A heartwarming story about a little girl's faith when everyone else on the plane was very frightened. She replied "My daddy is the pilot and he's taking me home." She was calm. Jesus' disciples were seasoned fisherman and they were terrified when a storm threatened to swamp their boat. Jesus was with them and was asleep. Storms don't stop us from getting to where our Lord wants us to go. Whether the storm we encounter today is the result of a tragic accident, a loss of employment, or some other trial, we can be confident that all is not lost. Our Pilot can handle the storm. He will get us home.

Jan announced that Aurora Andrade would come to the board meeting and share her plan of catching up on her delinquent payments on her home. Discussion was held and will work out a repayment plan with her.

Minutes of the July 25<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as written.

Finance Committee report: Patti presented the budget overview for July 2016 through June 2017.

MSC Patti/Nellie to move Project 5 & 6 to savings account as they are paid off. Jan will call Charlene at Fidelity and start the paperwork for the reconveyance on Bravo's home.

Patti has arranged for West America to have credit card machines at the Golf Tournament.

Patti asked about the SOS monies due to National, no invoice has been received at this time. MSC Fred/Pete that we wait for the invoice and pay the least amount possible.

Family Services: Nellie has researched the documents she has for Andrade and no language about late fees or penalties for delinquent payments. Therefore, we must work with her to get her up to date.

Site Selection: Don shared that several of the construction crew went with him and spent two hours assessing the needs of a rehab on 22<sup>nd</sup> & R and they offered \$85,000 realizing it would take at least \$20,000 to bring it up to code. It was rejected.

Don is trying to get in touch with the owner of the lot on 25<sup>th</sup> & K near John Muir School. Jan asked about an empty lot on Alexander, and El Capitan and Olive. Don will check in on these. Jan will call the Carters in regard to the big lot on Oleander that would be enough for three homes. The cost of water and sewer could amount to \$80,000.

ReStore suggestions: Talk to Los Banos to see if they would consider a consignment arrangement for a percentage fee. Jan will report back at the next meeting.

Golf Tournament Friday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. Don has need for more golfers – everyone try to recruit more. He would like at least 80. Jan suggested homemade cookies in a little bag for each golfer; he liked the idea so Patti, Jan and Don will provide the cookies. Ron Smith has donated a car for the par 3's.; Volunteers are needed to help – Nellie, Michelle, and Jan plan to be there – by 10 a.m. Jan volunteered Larry & son Gary to barbecue around 10 a.m. Still looking for sponsors for holes or raffle gifts.

Administration: Jan shared her conversation with Risk Management at National in regard to Stanislaus coming into Merced County. They suggested we sit down and discuss it and work out the problems. When asked about the Covenant we all sign that we won't cross county boundaries, they said there are exceptions to that rule. He suggested we talk to the new CEO in Sutter county.

Habitat California has requested \$500 for dues to help lobby for the income tax donations for our zip code. Discussion was not to do it as if the zip codes were in our area, they would have to give them to us, regardless of paying for them. MSC Fred/Pete not to send the \$500.00.

Castle Health Faire: August 6<sup>th</sup>: A new volunteer helped Jan with the booth and they were able to share with lots of people about Habitat.

UCMerced booth will be Wed. August 31 and Jan has volunteers lined up to help her. She needs the summer newsletter so will check with the printer and get copies to distribute there.

Thrivent has another possible grant through Generosity Kit – Jan will study the details and report at the next meeting.

Public Relations: George was absent.

Church Relations: Jan - articles sent each month to church email addresses.

Recruitment: Michelle – no report.

ReStore Research Chair – Lyle, absent. He reported that he is looking at empty buildings and has one possibility. Atwater Electronics building has been empty ever since the owner passed away and they may be ready to lease it at a reasonable rate. Jan will check with Lyle to go talk to the Trustee of the estate.

Unfinished & New Business:

Annual meeting, Sat. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m. Decorations – fall leaves & pumpkins

Set up tables, chairs, etc. at 2 p.m.

Raffle – Board members bring donations

Honor Homeowners who paid off their homes – Castro & Bravo – Donna  
Helpers – UCMerced?

Program: Merced Ukulele group

December meeting: It was by consensus that we not have a December meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Aurora arrived at 8 p.m. She had to work late. She apologized for missing payments, embarrassed to call anyone, and is determined to make up a little extra each month. Nellie made it clear to her that she must call if she has any problems. Nellie is willing to do to a Budget counseling session with her at West America Bank that they offer to their clients. Board members expressed their desire for her to keep her house but stressed the importance of making her monthly payments and catching up on the delinquent ones. She will make a \$600 payment Friday and \$600 each month to catch up. Nellie told her about Correctional Officer training that pays much better than the present job she has as she is looking for another job to help out or even extra Christmas help in stores.

Fred Pillsbury, Notetaker