

**Habitat for Humanity of Merced County**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting #176**  
**September 9, 2008**  
**First Church of God, 2100 Fruitland Ave., Atwater, CA 95301**

President Michelle Paloutzian called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Present:** Michelle Paloutzian, Fred Pillsbury, Genny Mesa, George Gallaher, Bill Sanford, Patti Houbein, Lyle Allen, Diane Bair, Donna Hall, Jan Sorge, Pat Shay (11)

**Excused:** Hilda Miranda, Mary Ann Reynolds, Jim Tolladay (3)

Bill Sanford volunteered to take the minutes in the absence of our secretary.

Michelle Paloutzian shared a **devotional message** from a book by HFH founder Millard Fuller.

The **minutes** of three meetings were submitted for approval:

+ July 8, 2008, a regular meeting

One correction: Add as Church Relations chair: "Sorge"

+ July 24, 2008, a special meeting

+ August 12, 2008, a regular meeting

Two corrections:

--Under minutes: Change to read: "Minutes of the meetings of July 8th & July 24<sup>th</sup> will be . . ."

--Under Family Selection Report: In the fourth line delete: "clean up the language and"

With these changes, all three sets of minutes were approved.

Hilda Miranda sent in a **treasurer's report** dated June 30, 2008. It was distributed and duly received.

**Committee Reports:**

**Administration.** Bill Sanford reported that an invoice had just been received listed seven coverages for the year April 1, 2008 to April 1, 2009. Total for year for all coverages: \$525.50. (See copy filed with original minutes.) The treasurer's report indicates this bill was paid in June by check #1600. Bill will secure Certificates of Insurance for upcoming activities: City of Merced, United Methodist Church of Atwater, and Central Presbyterian Church of Merced.

Bill & George Gallaher will staff a HFH table at the annual Community Involvement Fair at UC Merced, on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 11 to 2.

**Construction.** Lyle Allen reported that "due diligence" visits have been made to the sites turned over to us by the City of Merced. Checks in the amount of \$100 have been placed in each of three escrows (now with Fidelity Title, change of name from Chicago Title). The City has a fence around the lot at 195 South T St. We may decide to keep the fence for the time being and take responsibility for any attendant costs.

Lyle further reported a conversation he has had with Freddie Hightower with a view to the Mennonites helping us again on framing. He said construction drawings are very close to completion. Jan Sorge suggested a firm we might engage to provide port-a-potties at the building site.

**Family Selection.** Diane Bair told of difficulties encountered in securing fully completed applications. It was suggested that local churches be asked to carry articles in their newsletters about our need for applicants. Jan Sorge offered to help this to happen. Love, INC should be contacted for suggested applicants. Fred Pillsbury moved that the application of \*\*\*\* be approved subject to the satisfactory completion of a final interview. Second by Patti Houbein. Passed unanimously.

**Church Relations.** Jan Sorge wants to ensure that all local churches are on the list to receive our newsletter. She also wants them included in the mailing announcing our annual dinner/program on November 8<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:30 p.m. She would like to secure photos of our Merced houses.

**Nominations.** George Gallagher plans to bring in a slate for election at our October 14<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Lyle and Jan offered to meet with him to prepare the slate.

### **Coming Events**

**Merced Food Bank Board meeting.** Genny will attend the Thursday, Sept. 11, board meeting and represent our interest in renting space for a ReStore.

**8<sup>th</sup> Annual "Lunch in the Park:"** A United Way of Merced County event, it will be in Courthouse Park, from 11:30 to 1:30. Luncheon tickets: \$8.00. We are expected to sell 10 tickets, and Jan will lead the venture in selling.

**Strategic Planning Workshop with Betsy Murphy:** It is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 20, 9 to 4, at the United Methodist Church of Atwater, corner of Bellevue and Linden. Michelle will order sandwiches (charge to our affiliate) and other attendees are invited to bring snacks.

**Fund raising dinner at Gateway Community Church.** (Courtesy announcement)  
Donna Hall invited people to purchase tickets for a take-out dinner for Friday, Sept. 26. Meal tickets priced at \$7.50.

**Annual Dinner:** Donna Hall offered to enlist a speaker, and Patti, Michelle, Genny and Bill volunteered to meet to perfect the evening program.

\*\*\*\* Name removed by the President for confidentiality purposes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Sanford, Acting secretary