

**Habitat for Humanity of Merced County  
Minutes of January 11, 2011 Meeting #204  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

President: Michelle Paloutzian, present  
Secretary, Genny M. Mesa, absent  
Administrative Chair, Donna Hall, present  
Public Information Chair: George Gallaher, present  
Site Selection Chair: Jim Tolladay, excused  
Construction Chair: Lyle Allen, present  
Member at Large: Hilda Miranda, absent

Vice President: George Gallaher, present  
Treasurer/Finance Chair: Patti Houbein, present  
Church Relations Chair: Jan Sorge, present  
Family Selection/Partnership:  
Member at Large: Pete Delacruz, excused  
Member at Large: Fred Pillsbury

The meeting was called to order by Michelle Paloutzian at 7:02.

Devotions were read by Fred Pillsbury concerning a young man who packed a bag full of Twinkies and root beer and proceeded to look for God. He found an elderly gent in a park and, enchanted by his smile, shared his plunder with him. Upon leaving the young man hugged the old man and received a wonderful smile as a reward. The young man told his mother he had lunched with God when asked where he had been. The old man told his wife he had shared Twinkies and root beer with God and was surprised by his youthful appearance. The moral of the story is that we all show aspects of God equally and that we need to look at everyone to see some God in them.

Treasurer's Report: Patti reported that the Safety Deposit box has been opened and rekeyed. Patti and Michelle have keys to the box in their possession. The box contained the necessary papers for conveying the Deed to project #1 to Isabel Castro.

Administration: Donna needs someone to help with the insurance portion of the administrative Chair position. Michelle will obtain the Insurance certificate for St. Paul's Church for our meetings, the planning meeting and the Family selection meeting in February. Michelle will also check on the current status of all of our insurance policies. Patti will develop a calendar showing the due dates for all insurance payments. This calendar will be condensed into a single sheet of paper.

Public Information: George shared that the next issue of the newsletter will be printed following the dedication of the current project. He stated that Bill Sanford will assist in the process and will introduce George to Peggy Perkins and the gentlemen at Allied West Printing. The newsletter will be very similar to past issues.

Michelle and Lyle will send e-mail addresses of local radio stations to George so he can send them a public service radio spot for cars for homes. News releases will be sent to the local print and electronic media prior to the upcoming dedication ceremony. We will supplant the stay at home tea for a sofa spud campaign. A sample of the flyer was passed around. There needs to be some editing of the document. This campaign will occur just prior to Easter. A memory book like the book for the Upson Home will be produced for the Madrid family. Copies will be made for major contributors and for our archives. Michelle wants the affiliate to consider having more frequent newsletters and having them distributed by e-mail. This will be a topic for discussion at our upcoming planning

session. We may need to purchase return donation envelopes in the future. We have enough for at least one more mailing.

Construction: The volunteers trenched and buried 150 feet of 1" water line today. The line, along with the gas lines will be pressure tested Thursday. Once we are satisfied with the pressure testing, an inspection will be called for rough plumbing and electrical. Larry Sorge has negotiations with Certain Teed Insulation almost completed. Matt Hirota will loan his trailer to haul the insulation from Chowchilla. Lyle is happy with volunteers from UC Merced and is hoping to get them working again once school begins. We need volunteers to complete the fence and could use some young strong people to install insulation and sheet rock.

Church Relations: Jan Sorge shared that bulletins are still being sent to local churches. Lyle is going to supply Jan with the cost of a dish washer and vented microwave to be included in the next bulletin.

Volunteers: Jan is impressed with the volunteers who have helped with the current house and the number of volunteers who helped with the Christmas Parade float. Jan will contact Donnas' sister and work with her to form a phone tree that can be manned by willing volunteers.

A discussion about the suitability of the Food Bank site for evening meetings resulted in the board deciding to look elsewhere for office space. Lyle suggested that it might be cost effective to find an office with an attached warehouse. The cost of both might be the same as the cost of an office. We really need a place to store tools and building materials. The affiliate currently does not meet the requirements to begin the process of opening a ReStore.

Jan suggested that the World Habitat Day in October be added to our calendar and that we plan for this event far in advance.

George will begin revising the family selection presentation and will update the minimum and maximum income levels in accordance with HUD data.

We will discuss the newsletter, plan for the dedication, and complete the covenant and checklist at the planning meeting January 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will also discuss the next project and family selection.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted for Genny M. Mesa by George Gallaher