

Habitat for Humanity of Merced County Board Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2014

Meeting Location: St Paul Lutheran Church, Outreach Ministry Center
2916 McKee Rd, Merced CA

Meeting # 241

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
Site Selection Chair: Brithney Simpson	present
Volunteer Chair: Katilyn McIntire,	present
Member at Large: Pete Delacruz,	present
Member at Large: Fred Pillsbury,	present
Member at Large: Brittany Oakes,	present
Member at Large: Sean McLeod	present
Intern: Stephanie Miller,	absent
Guest: Sean Arnold	present

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

Guests: Jan re-introduced Sean Arnold and acknowledged Brithney Simpson and Sean McLeod as being guests the last time before becoming board members. Jan asked everyone present to introduce themselves and tell how they became associated with Habitat for Humanity.

Devotion: Patti shared from the book of Matthew. Ask and you will receive; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened unto you. Don't wait, but do it first giving or serving with no guarantee of return without being asked to do so is, indeed, faith. This is something we all can reflect upon and strive to make part of our lives.

Excused absences: None

February minutes: Jan stated that seeing no objections the minutes for February are to be accepted as submitted.

Financial Report: Patti reported that the lot price for the last project was written down to reflect current real estate values and that the receivable for project 13 is now an asset. She also reported that Rosa has paid one half of her down payment. The board accepted the financial report as read. Lyle moved and Michelle seconded a motion to open a savings account for project fourteen. Motion carried.

Administration: Jan stated that we have two new nominees for board positions: Brithney Simpson who is interested in site selection and Sean McLeod who is a local attorney. Both candidates spoke about their qualifications and interest in the mission of Habitat for Humanity. Fred Moved and Nellie seconded accepting both candidates as members of the board. The motion carried. Jan stated that there are senior citizens who

are willing to be employed at our Restore when it is up and running. Jan and Patti passed some insurance quotes to Lyle who will fill in information about construction materials and then return them to Jan. Jan stated that there is a Thrivent grant for Brush with Kindness programs that pay up to \$2,500.00 per home to supplement part of the cost of the repair. We will discuss this in depth on April 12, 2014 when Mrs. Murphy from Tulare County comes to share information.

Public Information: George stated that the new board member directory will be available at the next board meeting and will include all new board members.

Construction: Lyle says that the students from U.C. Merced dug the sewer line back to the cast iron and there is enough cast iron to connect our ABS so that the services of a plumber for this operation are not necessary. The waste lines are in and will be tested. We have the forms in place and the rebar in. We are ready for an inspection but have to wait for a building permit to continue. Garth is busy and will get to the changes to our plans when he can. Once the city has okayed the final version of the plans, Lyle can pay the fees to the city and pay the user fees to the local school districts. Lyle stated that the documentation on the previous home has been misplaced and asked Patti to obtain another one. We need this since the user fees from local school districts can be substantially reduced with proof of the existence and size of a former home on the property. After the fees are paid and the building permit is secured an inspection can occur and we will move forward with the project.

Family Services: Nellie reported that she is in contact with a local band that is willing to display a sign or banner advertising Habitat for Humanity during their musical forays. Jan will look into getting a sign or banner from Genny Mesa. We will also display our web address so that people can learn more about our organization without having the band lug around flyers wherever they perform. Nellie is working closely with Rosa Chavez.

Church Relations: Jan stated that she is continually sending information to local churches.

Volunteers: Katilyn reported that she oversaw the orientation meeting and it went well with a two new volunteers in attendance. She is currently seeking volunteers for the yard sale and for volunteers who need community service credits to help with the Hmong rummage sale set-up process. She is in contact with CAT-LIFE and will use their services to obtain U.C. students to help with the Brush with Kindness program when it gets underway.

Other Business

Jan reported that she is in need of speakers for service organizations. Lyle has developed an outline that he will share with the board during our next scheduled board meeting. Jan reported that Applebee's Restaurants has a Saturday breakfast fund raiser and will look into this possibility further. We may be able to have this type of fundraiser around April 26th. Jan is still looking into the paper shredder fundraiser and will get back to the board

with more information. Brittney is working on grants and will set aside time during Spring Break to complete applications. Pete reported that the Merced County office of Education has many opportunities for setting up information booths. Someone from the board needs to contact key people at the County Schools office to make arrangements to have booths at their various presentations and fairs. Sean Arnold will check into a lead about a truck in Atwater. Jan stated that booths at the county fair seen expensive. Even the one time outdoor booth on opening day is \$300.00. Jan stated that she is sending our events to mymerced.com which seems to be a place people go to find events within our county.

Board Assessment

Jan stated that we would look at the first four questions from the assessment instrument presented at the annual planning meeting.

Composition of the Board of Directors

1. The recruitment process is sensitive to demographic issues when selecting board members.

The group agreed that this is somewhat true. We need to look for a more individuals from various local demographic groups.

2. The Board is representative of the community and the organization's constituencies.

Sean McLeod stated that when he served with United

Way he noticed that over the years the people on the board and the people requesting funds became more and more like the community. He suggested that we try to get board members that represent all geographic areas of our area. This will make the board more representative and will probably cover the problem with finding people to represent various ethnic groups.

3. The by-laws limit tenure and ensure rotation of board members.

Recently we have had members serve longer that the by-laws originally intended. With the prospect of many new members this problem will, probably, become less of an area of concern.

4. The Board is comprised of both new and experienced trustees to guarantee continuity of new ideas.

This is truer now that it has been in the past few years.

Report ReStore Possibilities: Sean Arnold spoke about the bowling alley in Merced and how the building would cost more to renovate that it would be worth. He went on to say that he is working full-time and may not be able to devote as much time to the Restore process as he has in the past. He will continue to send real estate listings for potential store sites. And will help us however possible. He stated that the Nickel Arcade site is still a likely good place for a restore as it is centrally located, has parking, and is close to another second hand store. Sean McLeod stated that he has a friend who has access to a large building at the former Castle Air Force Base and that he will check with him to see if we can store merchandise there until we get a space for a store. Brittany and Katilyn are going to assemble a group of volunteers to remove cement

shingles from a home that is to be torn down at the corner of North East Bear Creek Drive and Parsons Avenue. The shingles will need to be transported and stored. Hopefully the place at Castle will be available at the right time.

Devotions for the next three months: The following volunteered: April: Lyle, May: Michelle, June: Fred.

Meeting adjourned: 8:03 p.m.

George Gallaher, Secretary

Calendar:

March

- 17 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – Outreach Ministries Building
Conference Room – St. Paul Lutheran Church, Merced
Devotion: Patti
- 29 – Groundbreaking 10:00 927 W. 8th St., Merced

April

- 5 – Yard Sale 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. St. Paul Parking Lot
- 12 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. “Brush With Kindness” workshop with
Betsy Murphy
- 21 – Monday 6:30 p.m. Board Meeting – Outreach Ministries Building
Conference Room – St. Paul Lutheran Church, Merced
Devotion: Lyle

May

- 19 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – Outreach Ministries Building
Conference Room – St. Paul Lutheran Church, Merced
Devotion: Michelle

June

- 9 - Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – Outreach Ministries Building
Conference Room – St. Paul Lutheran Church, Merced
Devotion: Fred

Habitat for Humanity of Merced County, Inc.
Board Meeting Sign-in March 17, 2014

1 George Gellahn

2 Jan Argo

3 Michelle Paloufian

4 FRED TILSBURY

5 NELLIE VENEZIS

6 Lyde Allen

7 A. Bold

8 Patti Hauken

9 Brittney Simpson

10 Pat Delacruz

11 [Signature]

12 Brittany Oakes

13 Kathlyn McIntire