

Habitat for Humanity of Merced County Board Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2015

Meeting Location: St Paul Lutheran Church, Outreach Ministry Center

2916 McKee Rd, Merced CA

Meeting # 251

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

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

Guests: Kathy Upson, Patrick O'Connor, Jennifer Upson

Devotion: Donna read a daily devotional titled “**Communicate Your Mission**”. She started with a bible passage “*I intend, therefore, to build a temple for the Name of the LORD my God, as the LORD told my father David, when he said, ‘Your son whom I will put on the throne in your place will build the temple for my Name.’*” – 1 Kings 5:5

The first thing to understand about Solomon is that God’s mission for him was clear from the very beginning. He was to build a great temple for the Lord. Interestingly, Solomon’s father, David, also had the same vision, but it was not his mission to carry out. God knew David was a warrior, not a builder, and so He saved this particular goal for David’s son, Solomon.

Solomon gave the goal and the mission to the people of Israel, helped them to understand what his mission was and challenged them to carry out it out. The timing was right for this. The enemies had been defeated. It was a time to follow God’s will.

Are you clear on your life mission? Are you clear on your purpose? Can you express it in a brief sentence just like Solomon could? If you are a leader, are you clear on your organization’s mission and the role you are to play in that goal? Are you very clear about some God-given goals – goals that God has given you to help fulfill that mission? Do you communicate that mission clearly?

Follow Solomon’s example: begin with a clear mission and communicate that mission to those who are helping you meet that goal. It’s an absolute key to successful living.

Excused absences: Sean Arnold

Guest presentation: A Habitat for Humanity partner came to the board to express gratitude for her home and to ask if the board would consider allowing her to pass on the blessing of her Habitat for Humanity Home to her daughter and allow her daughter to continue the house payments and occupy the home as if she were a new partner family. The partner stated that she was at a turning point in her life and felt the need to move to Oregon. The board stated they needed time to assess the feasibility and legality of the proposal and asked that the partner family contact the City of Merced to determine if the new partner family's income falls within the guidelines established in the deed covenant between HfHM and the City. The board promised to hold a special board meeting to consider the proposal once the current partner reported back the findings on the financial eligibility of the proposed new partner.

December minutes: Amended to change the words Go to the word God in the first line of the Devotions section. Minutes accepted as amended.

Financial report: Patti reported that two partner families have erratic payment histories. She suggested we bring them in one at a time to discuss the need to make timely house payments. The group agreed to meet with the project 13 partner family during the February board meeting and with the other partner at a later date. Patti reported that the property tax exemption for the current build will be submitted in the next few days. She also reported that the mortgage statements will be sent to all partner families in the near future. Donna suggested enclosing a statement about the importance of prompt payments as these payments are necessary for building future homes within the mortgage statements. Patti stated that the tithe has been paid. Patti expressed concern with the dwindling nature of our monetary resources. We lose a revenue stream every time a home mortgage comes to completion. Discussion began on the value of the home that the partner wants to transfer to her daughter. Consensus of the group seemed to be that HfH Merced needs to be certain the partner is aware of her equity in her home and doesn't have seller's remorse at a later date.

Administration: The annual planning day will be January 31 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the St. Paul Lutheran Church Outreach Ministry Center. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Discussion on Stanislaus Habitat Board Meeting: Jan stated that she has received two communications from the director of HfH Stanislaus regarding her inquiry about attending our board meeting. Jan did not respond as the Habitat for Humanity Stanislaus director's presence is unnecessary. The board talked about merging with the Los Banos affiliate. The group discussed the reasons for separating the two affiliates within Merced County. The reasons seem to still be valid and both affiliates seem to be thriving. The board concluded that very little would be gained by such a merger at this time. The board also concluded that a merger with Stanislaus would not be beneficial to HfH Merced. Jan and Sheila are working on site selection for the next home. Sheila will meet with Jim

Tolliday to develop a strategy for purchasing property from the City of Merced. Jan will work with Nellie to prepare for a family selection process for the next home.

Public Information: Jan will contribute a letter to the newsletter. An article about building dog houses, play houses, and doll house will be added to the newsletter. The newsletter should be published by mid February. Gateway Fire Protection will be added to the list of construction contributors in the upcoming newsletter.

Construction: Lyle stated that the exterior doors will be in place tomorrow and the house will be lockable. Lyle is working with Creative Plumbing on finding a good price on a tankless water heater. If they come in with a price lower than the cost of the one already purchased, that tank will be returned and Lyle will purchase the lower priced one. The final frame inspection will occur next week. After that milestone we can begin installing insulation and hanging gypsum board. Lyle is planning to propose to Steve Macha that the “old Guys” compete with Steve’s students in a quality contest with each group responsible for hanging sheet rock in specified rooms. Donna suggested that Lyle seek newspaper coverage of the contest as a way to get free publicity.

Family Services: No report.

Church Relations: Jan sent information about the flapjack fundraiser to local churches.

Volunteers: Jan held a volunteer orientation with eight attendees. Jan has volunteers lined up for February’s flapjack fundraiser and the yard sale in April.

Other Business

Donna will contact local radio stations to set up public service announcements for our flapjack fundraiser. Jan will contact the newspapers. Jan asked if any board member wanted to be in charge of the flapjack fund raiser with no one coming forth as a volunteer. Jan stated she would have tickets for the event ready before the annual planning meeting. Donna stated her office is planning to buy up to fifteen carry out breakfasts at the event.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00p.m.

George Gallaher, Secretary

Habitat for Humanity of Merced County, Inc.
Board Meeting Sign-in January 19, 2015

- 1 GW Galbraith
- 2 Jan Argo
- 3 FRED PILLSBURY
- 4 Patti Houlihan
- 5 Danna Hall
- 6 Lyle Allen
- 7 Kathleen Upson
- 8 Patrick O'Connor
- 9 Jennifer Upson
- 10 _____
- 11 _____
- 12 _____
- 13 _____
- 14 _____
- 15 _____
- 16 _____

Calendar:

January 14 – Wednesday, 7 – 8 p.m. Volunteer Orientation, St. Paul Lutheran Church Outreach Ministry Center Conference Room, 2916 N. McKee Rd. Merced

January 19 – Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran Church Outreach Ministry Center – conference room, 2916 N. McKee Rd. Merced
Devotion:

January 31 – Annual Planning Day – 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

February 16, Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting - St. Paul Lutheran OMC
Devotion:

February – Flapjack Fundraiser?

March 16, Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran OMC
Devotion:

April 11, Saturday, 8-2 p.m. Vendors, Rummage Sale, St. Paul Parking Lot
Need Chairperson – contact vendors, etc.

April 20, Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St. Paul Lutheran OMC
Devotion:

May 18, Monday, 6:30 p.m. Board meeting – St Paul Lutheran OMC
Devotion: