

Steering Committee Minutes
Perinton Congregations for Flower City Habitat for Humanity
A Ministry of Ecumenical Ministries of Perinton, Inc. (EMP)
January 27, 2020, 7:00 pm at Perinton Presbyterian Church

Church Attendance: **Church of the Assumption:** Bill Lilly, Charlie Szilagyi; **Church of the Resurrection:** George Orosz; **Fairport United Methodist:** Carlee Brown and Rick Hill (Co-Secretaries), Don Stanton (Treasurer); **First Congregational UCC:** Chic Gray; **Mountain Rise UCC:** Bob Haas; **Perinton Presbyterian:** Ed Daniel, Mark Stevens (Chair); **St. John of Rochester:** Mike Seaman (by phone). **Guests from Flower City Habitat for Humanity:** Ethel Duble (Development Director); Greg Shriver (AmeriCorps Volunteer Services Coordinator). **Member of Ecumenical Ministries of Perinton, Inc. Board of Directors and Flower City Habitat volunteer:** Lois Rixner

Regrets: Bill Holliday, Dan Killoran

The meeting was called to order by Mark. We introduced ourselves.

Finance report: Don presented the attached report; and Mark provided the attached summary of donations, which has been revised to reflect information presented at the meeting. There were a few revisions of projected income. Chic confirmed that First Congregational United Church of Christ will contribute another \$1,000 in 2020 for a total of \$3,000. Perinton Presbyterian will contribute \$3,000 in 2020. Chris Hirschler sent a check for \$500 as a memorial to his father Ron that will be credited to the Church of St. John of Rochester. Our 2020 house is dedicated to Ron's memory. Mike said he expects a total of \$12,500 from St. John. Credits for gifts-in-kind have been eliminated by Flower City so that figure will change to zero. Ethel will double-check. The final figure for Church of the Assumption is \$10,117 and has been received. Don reported that our checking account has over \$56,000. The combination of funds received and pledged is sufficient to commit to Flower City to build in 2020.

Flower City Habitat for Humanity: Ethel and Greg from Flower City Habitat told us about innovations that will help make our experience even better than in 2017, including:

- Work Wednesdays through Saturdays only.
- Flexibility as to the number of workers. We can register up to a dozen without making special arrangements in advance.
- Our volunteer builders will work on our house only, often with the future homeowner(s).
- The physical demands of our volunteer builders will be lighter than in the past. The hard work like building basement walls and roofing will be handled by professionals and a special group of regular Flower City volunteers. This should make it easier for seniors.
- We needn't worry about not filling all our work slots. Flower City can fill in with volunteers from the community at large and special groups.
- Volunteer registration both online and written form will be even easier than before. Volunteers who go to Flower City's website can easily find our Perinton group logo, click on that, and register with ease. Steering committee members will be able to register volunteers who don't have computer access or skills. A paper volunteer form is available for those who prefer to mail their registration.
- Youth ages 16 and 17 can work if their parents sign permission forms. There are no opportunities for younger volunteers this year.

- It's now taking seven to nine months to complete construction so we can expect to have more workdays. Flower City is working on shortening that period.

Other news from Flower City:

- They've completed five rehabilitations so far. It was tricky to estimate costs because of so many unknowns such as asbestos and other unseen environmental hazards.
- They have a new design for a five-bedroom home and have built two so far for families that each have children on the autism spectrum. They worked with autism professionals to adapt the design to make it friendlier for those children. This are part of a "micro community" near the site where 10-year-old Tyshaun Caldwell was shot in 2001. The place where he was killed is vacant. They're working with Seneca Park Zoo to create a mini park in his memory.
- Flower City will complete its 250th home this year to be built by Blue Cross and Blue Shield. They will also build their 100th home in the JOSANA neighborhood, fulfilling the pledge made to the city to revitalize the area with at least 100 new homes. The work in JOSANA was inspired by Tyshaun's death.

Next Steps: Ethel will prepare a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for our review and signature. This is a new step instituted by Flower City. Her best guess for groundbreaking is sometime in March. She expects to have firm dates by mid-February. We should plan a groundbreaking ceremony and invite clergy and leaders of all participating churches. We should encourage church leaders to be the first to volunteer so they can spread the word to others about their positive experience helping to build our Habitat home.

Website: The address is now PerintonHabitat.org. Anyone who goes to ".com" will be redirected to the ".org" page. Members of the web page ad hoc group will meet with Darren for training to maintain and update the site. Darren will handle hosting and domain name renewal so it doesn't lapse again.

Next meeting: Monday, February 24, 7:00 p.m. at Perinton Presbyterian Church. Ethel will be there with more news about our house, family, start time, etc.

Respectfully submitted,



Rick Hill, Co-Secretary

Attachments: financial reports, roster