



**Perinton
Congregations**

for Greater Rochester
Habitat for Humanity

A Ministry of Ecumenical Ministries of Perinton, Inc.

Steering Committee Minutes, April 29, 2024, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Attendance: **Bethlehem Lutheran Church:** Mike Joyce; **Church of the Assumption:** Charlie Szilagyi; **Church of the Resurrection:** Dan Killoran (Treasurer); **Fairport United Methodist Church:** Carlee Brown, Rick Hill (Co-Secretaries); **First Congregational United Church of Christ:** Frank Stein; **Member At-Large:** Chris Hirschler; **Mountain Rise United Church of Christ:** Bill Holliday; **Perinton Presbyterian Church:** Mark Stevens (Chair); **St. John of Rochester Church:** George Orosz. **Guest from Greater Rochester Habitat for Humanity:** Gareth Evans, Associate Director of Development, Volunteer Engagement, and Fundraising.

The meeting was called to order by Mark who welcomed Frank Stein, the new representative from First Congregational United Church of Christ. Frank's church recently devoted their Lenten fundraising to Habitat and raised over \$2,600. Mark attended Sunday to express our thanks and share the Habitat story.

108 Ackerman is nearing completion, and the dedication is scheduled for Friday, May 17, 3 p.m. Pastor Jim Lawler from Harvest Home faith group will offer a blessing. If any other pastor would like to participate, please let Gareth know by Friday, May 3. Because of the high volume of homes being built this year—15 in Monroe County and three in the others, Habitat is contracting out some of the work to expedite completion. They will probably have contractors finish the upper siding for 108 Ackerman.

207 Melville Street will probably break ground in June and have a wall raising ceremony in mid-July. It will be the same design as 108 Ackerman. The walls will be built at a “framing frenzy” at Baytown Plaza on May 10. The new owner has two children and has been working with Habitat to achieve her goal of becoming a homeowner. GRIB already has commitments for the \$100,000 needed to build Melville and is working to raise funds the next house after that.

Finances: We're in good shape financially and working to invest some of the cash we're accumulating for future homes in CDs to earn interest.

Gareth fielded questions about Habitat policies and procedures:

- It costs about \$250,000 to \$280,000 to build the smaller and larger 3-bedroom homes. The two GRIB is building on Ackerman and Melville Streets are the smaller models. We provide \$100,000 and the rest comes from grants and mortgages of around \$130,000 with two to four percent interest rate loans. That's considerably below current market rates that are between seven to eight percent. Many buyers are eligible for a combination of NYS and federal grants and/or mortgage interest subsidies.
- Habitat homes are now all-electric, using energy-efficient heating and cooling systems. This is required by some of the grants they currently receive and in anticipation of the state outlawing fossil fuel appliances in new construction in the next few years.
- Habitat may expand the use of subcontractors to expedite construction. Modular homes are being considered.

- “Tiny homes” are not an option due to local building requirements and lack of demand.
- Volunteers are needed to help at Restore. Youth 16 and older may work any time. There may be one-time opportunities for youth 9th grade and older to do service projects at the store. Contact Gareth if interested.

Next meeting: Monday, July 29, 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rick Hill".

Rick Hill, Co-secretary

Attachment: current roster