

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Homeless Ministries Task Force Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2019

Present: Bill Dornbush, Jennifer Dornbush, Shirley Cheal, Bob Cheal, John Creager, Norm Bryan, Sam Cox.

Bob called the meeting to order and led us in the Oneness In Christ Statement. John offered a devotional prayer.

1. John reported that the city has approved six-month extensions for participants who have been in the program for six months or more.
2. Safe Parking populations include: Our church, 10 cars/11 people; Christ UMC, 4 cars/6 people; Sebastopol Church, 6 cars/7 people; and McBride (Homeless Action Sponsored), 19 people. Committee members expressed appreciation to John for the building up of our program via his effective leadership.
3. Angela has a job and we think housing by July 1.
4. Seth, the neighbor who had concerns about our program and with whom John met, is now OK with our program, and, in fact, his concerns had not actually been with our program per se.
5. We continue to get some reports of drive-thru “donuts” happening in the parking lot, though this does not seem to be a frequent occurrence. Norm reports a tree was knocked down recently, evidently by a vehicle, exact circumstances unknown. Bill and Jennifer reported a complaint about drive-thru harassment. John reports being unable to spot such incidents via the camera, although people can be observed walking through the property at night.
6. The committee commended John for the financial assistance he has given participants such as fixing flat tires, paying for auto registrations, etc., and encouraged him to submit these expenses for reimbursement.
7. Bob will work with Bill to explore adjusting the camera to get a better view of the parking lot.
8. The committee decided that, going forth, we will not provide participant food storage at the Giffen House.
9. John and Teresa attended a “how to” Housing Workshop where some proactive tips for finding housing were presented.
10. We discussed how we might provide assistance to participants to secure housing. John reported on the services of the InterFaith Shelter Network. It was suggested that we explore a partnership with this group so that we might refer our safe parking participants. The Network provides individual help with completing housing applications, as well as other services. John will explore a partnership.

Minutes taken by Sam