

Homeless Ministries Task Force

December 12, 2018

Meeting notes:

In attendance: Sam Cox, Peg Ferrell, John Creager, Jennie Hartman, Mike Farrell, Bill Dornbush, Jennifer Dornbush, Shirley Cheal, Bob Cheal.

November minutes approved, Jennifer Moved/Shirley seconded.

Privacy of safe parking participants was discussed. It was agreed that the information that might be discussed during the course of our meeting is confidential and not to be shared outside of the task force. Any information covered by HIPPA requirements should be kept strictly confidential.

Homeless Information brochure developed by Pastor Lindsey and produced by Bob and Shirley was passed around the table.

Each Task Force member had the opportunity to discuss their recent experiences with monitoring the safe parking site. It was confirmed that all of us, with rare exceptions, are checking to make sure doors are locked on the campus.

John will contact United Services to downgrade to a standard toilet unit. Bob should be contacted with service date so that the waste basket, the lock, the light, and the seat covers dispenser can be removed and placed in the new unit. We are anticipating that gravel can be shifted from around the current unit to help make the walking area leading up to the porta potty more safe for participants.

Possible funding sources to be explored: United Methodist Foundation, REM Grants, Peace and Justice and others. Shirley agreed to check on grant funding dates. Bob suggested that grants are pursued in 2019 as they become available. HEAP may be an additional funding source for our homeless efforts. John reported that discussions at the most recent Leadership meeting revealed that the HEAP funds are intended for emergency and/or temporary projects. Also that the funds must be spent within 2 years. John will report back when additional information is available.

John is working on a report to the Church Council. How do we measure the success of Safe Parking? Discussion ensued and the following items were suggested (in no particular order):

- Number of participants in the program
- Number of people/nights
- Number of people moving on from the program to Shelters, permanent housing, or left the program without a shelter result.
- Number of police calls or neighborhood complaints due to the program.

- Activities that we are maintaining such as creating a safe place to sleep, breakfasts and housing location assistance.
- Community partnerships and community involvements.

Due to the nature of our Safe Parking program, the safe parking volunteers are in the position of being Mandated Reporters for Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services. The reporting individual's identity is kept strictly confidential by the agency. Failure to report known or reasonably suspected incidents of abuse or neglect is against the law in the State of California (ref: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/report.pdf#page=2&view=Penalties%20for%20failure%20to%20report>, ref: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Adult-Protective-Services>).

Policy agreement: Safe Parking participants must be legally able to drive their vehicle onto and off of our property.