

Carmichael HART Meeting Minutes, April 16, 2020

The meeting began at 6 p.m. with an opening prayer, notice of February minutes, and introduction of new participants via Zoom in compliance with “shelter in place” response guidelines for the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Carmichael HART Response to Covid-19 Crisis

- Dan Sanders connected with Togos to partner with HART for 50 meals to be given to local homeless people Monday, Wednesday and Friday by Scott Young and navigator Heather Wheeler. Carmichael Presbyterian Church also is accepting food and hygiene items for pickup during the week. Items can be dropped off Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 2 p.m. Funds to extend distributions through May are available, thanks to cash donations from the Church of God, Christ Community Church, and HART members. HART is still accepting donations. Expressions of appreciation to Togos, which has a takeout service, are encouraged. HART is advocating portable rest rooms and showers.
- The Carmichael HART Board met in March.

Committee Updates

Winter Sanctuary – Barbara Farley

- The committee received helpful feedback and suggestions from volunteers at a recent debrief meeting.
- Regular monthly meetings will resume in June or July. Eight guests have been housed, Scott Young said.
- The Trip-Tip Dinner fundraiser scheduled for the week after Memorial Day is postponed until early fall.

Youth – Dan Sanders

- The Student Buddy program is on hold until schools reopen. The committee will reassess how to resume weekly lunchtime meetings for mentors and students -- if they will attend the same school as before the pandemic.
- The Student Connect event is still tentatively scheduled for late September.
- Derek Corea, contracting with HART, is submitting grant bids for youth programs, including two to Golden 1.
- Next committee meeting: 6 p.m. Monday, April 20, via Google Hangout (Dan will set up).

Housing -- Keith Johnson

- Charlotte House: SSHH oversees operations with Sharon, the house leader. Program is continuing with some new safety protocols in place due to the Covid-19 crisis. One new participant moved in on April 7.
- Robertson House: HART signed a lease agreement with Carmichael Presbyterian Church, and will coordinate with contractor Pete Deterding about the renovation. Wells Fargo Bank, which donated funds and labor for Charlotte House, is now working with Habitat for Humanity on such projects, which will require adjustments in its HART relationship.

Navigator Update – Scott Young for Heather Wheeler

- Scott and Heather are continuing to distribute donated food three times a week. Barbara Farley and other volunteers at Carmichael Presbyterian Church receiving donations twice a week..

HARTS Together/SSHH Update – Ken Bennett (See website -- <https://www.hartstogether.org/>)

- Elk Grove HART is providing 60 meals five days a week. Citrus Heights HART is distributing vouchers for a food truck. Mini-grants of \$3,000 are being made available for HARTS to help finance food distributions.
- HARTS of Folsom, Arden Arcade, Rancho Cordova, Carmichael and Citrus Heights participated in a one-day April 9th on-line fundraiser. Midtown HART will provide a meal to whichever HART received the most donations at a general meeting once “shelter in place” guidelines are lifted. Carmichael HART received \$1,647 in donations on April 9th.

Public Comment

- Scott said we plan on participating in the “Big Day of Giving” in 2021. Many nonprofits participate in the on-line program if they can handle daunting paperwork requirements.
 - Arden Arcade HART plans to distribute 100 lunches and hygiene packets, following the Carmichael model. River City Food Bank at the Center at St Matthews is open and operating.
 - HARTS Together will publish an on-line newsletter in early May. It will include several success stories and a memorial for a key longtime HART leader in Rancho Cordova.
 - There was discussion about the need for a clothes closet for homeless people. The Salvation Army outlet in Rancho Cordova may be open and be a clothing resource.
 - Carmichael Presbyterian Church is operating its food closet Monday through Friday.
- The meeting closed at 7 a.m.

Next general Carmichael HART meeting: 6 p.m. Thursday, May 21.