

Chippewa Falls Mission Coalition April 1st Minutes (Revised 4-8-24)

Website: cfmissioncoalition.org

Monday, April 1, 2024

22 people present

Opened meeting with introductions and prayer by Pam Moran.

Guest Speaker: John Dawson, Executive Director Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity

Website: www.cvh4h.org

Subject: Volunteers Needed for Chippewa Area Home Build

John's Contact Info: john@cvh4h.org

About Habitat:

- In 60 countries
- Christian organization and mission
- Has growing support through donations. Working to add donations to increase building opportunities.
 - Some of the current organizations they are working with include Whirlpool donating appliances, IKEA donating cabinets, Anderson Windows donating windows and Grant Dollars from Market & Johnson, RCU, US Bank, Pablo, Menomonie Mission Coalition, St. James Church in Eau Claire as well as many more that donate grant dollars and volunteers.
- They construct panelized homes, meaning the framing is done in a factory. This makes the process much quicker and safer for the volunteers.

About Habitat in the Chippewa Valley:

- Have spent the past 3 years revamping. They're essentially operating as a start-up. Hoping to start adding to staff numbers.
- This year, they'll build 19 living units. 8 houses and 11 apartments
 - The apartments will be for veterans and will be located in a wing of Grace Lutheran Church in Eau Claire
- Cover Buffalo, Dunn, Chippewa, and Eau Claire counties. They're hoping to soon merge with Barron county.
- They're working with the Housing Authority here in Chippewa
- They're working with the Pablo group owners "Home For Good" - they renovate Eau Claire homes for rental families. They are also working on a land trust program with "Home For Good" where the families own the house, not the land – it helps with home appreciation.
 - Families own the house, not the land - it helps with home appreciation
- Land is coming to Habitat now since Affordable Housing is an important local initiative for major cities in our counties.

About Volunteering:

- Last week, while building a twin home in Menomonie, they had 70 volunteers helping
- Volunteers are what make Habitat successful
- They use Volunteer Hub <https://www.cvh4h.org/volunteer/>

- You can submit all the waivers and sign up there.
- It tells you exactly what you're signing up to do. Some options other than building include: painting, providing lunches, working at ReStore, cleaning, and office administration.
- Workdays are 9:00-4:00 Monday-Sunday. Single volunteers or groups welcome.
- "What skill sets do you need?" Anyone - they'll train volunteers to do everything!
 - For example, last week they had a swim team drywall most of a house without any prior experience
- "What ages can volunteer?" Young and old are welcome. Anyone below 16 needs parents with them. Anyone age 16 or 17 can't use power tools.
- "How far ahead do you post projects?" Every week. Not usually more than 2 weeks in advance due to how hard it is to predict volunteers. They'll figure it out if a church signs up further ahead of time though.

About Families:

- When buying a Habitat house, families take out a mortgage around \$160,000-\$180,000. This covers the cost to build.
- Habitat then holds a second mortgage. This mortgage is for whatever the difference is based on the appraisal cost of the house.
 - They do this so that families do not immediately flip the house and sell it for a significant profit.
- Families take out a conventional loan through whichever lender they choose.
- Habitat's second mortgage is for 20 years. In the first 20 years there is no interest and no payments. The family receives the home appreciation if they do sell eventually.
- "How are families chosen?" There's a selection committee who views all the applications. They review for need, families are pre-approved for a loan, and then the families are visited in person.
 - Not many people are signing up though, so maybe some of our churches have families who could apply.
 - Families have tended to be single moms with children.

About Funding:

- They have grants that are usually restricted. Accepting donations.
- Hoping to make ReStore (145 N Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire) profitable so that it's sustainable in the long run to offset operating costs.
- They accept furniture donations as well as appliances, building materials, tools, etc.- they'll come pick it up for you

Guest Speaker: Jennifer Schaffer, Community Education Coordinator for the Cardinal Community Learning Center ...

Website: cfsd.chipfalls.k12.wi.us/cardinal/community/

Subject: Community Education Opportunities

Jenny's Contact Info: schafejl@chipfalls.org

- School district is utilizing the building well - just not with students most of the time!

- There's a brochure for the school district of classes. The current brochure is from Jan-May and a new one will be distributed for the fall.
 - Always looking for ideas, suggestions, or teachers
- Highlighted the Strengthening Families program
 - It's 10 weeks where families talk, learn, and cook together. Things like how to communicate, set rules, etc.
- Highlighted the Aging Population Day at CVTC in October.
- Will share resources and help brainstorm if a church group needs ideas or a speaker for a certain topic. She'll offer classes at your church as well.

“Lather With Love” Soap Mission (Tom Drehmel)

Month of April will be our “Lather With Love” soap mission. Try to get youth involved in the collection process. Drop off soaps at Central Lutheran before 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17th and/or Wednesday, May 1st. Pantry Pick up date will be Thursday, May 2nd.

- 6 pantries are participating

Mission Update: Hope Village/Tiny Houses – (Mike Cohoon)

Capital Campaign/Construction Update – Golf Outing Fund Raiser Update

- Golf outing is on July 29th
- Only \$63,500 to go on the capital campaign

Mission Update: “Lighten Your Load” Family Laundry Mission. (Gayle Klitzke)

- Slots are all filled for the next 3 months

Mission Update: CFMC Serving at Agnes’ Table, April 2nd. (Tom Drehmel) All volunteer spots filled and paid for already by Mason Companies.

CFMC Website Update: (Mark Birrittella)

We are up and running at cfmissioncoalition.org

Check it out. Additions? Corrections? Suggestions? Events Calendar?

Other Business/Announcements

- Stay posted for a winter wear collection this fall (St. Francesca)

Next Meeting – May 6, 2024 at First Presbyterian Church - 130 W Central St, Chippewa Falls ... 5:00 p.m. (Guest Speaker: Jenn Barrett – Subject: Tiny House Volunteers)

* Closed with Lord’s Prayer/Our Father.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Allen

CFMC Mission Statement: “Faithful people joining hearts and hands to be God’s Love in action for our neighbors near and far.”

CFMC Bible Verse: Psalm 60:12 – “With God’s help we will do mighty things.”