

HELPS TEAM MINUTES

02-06-2024 7:00AM

Present: Dave Smith, Debbie Failing, Linda Reeve, Dan Scheneman

Absent: Chris Stackpole

Dave spoke about Conversations:

Dave welcomed Dan Scheneman to the team. Dan volunteered to assist with Conversations set up on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Dave will talk with the Property Team about putting signs on the doors to the showers stating they are for GEPC Members Only. This will enable staff / security / FirsTeam members to ensure homeless people do not use them for nefarious reasons. Without the signs, anyone can go inside and stay as long as they want and conduct their other business without us having the means to make them leave. With the signs we can call the PD and have them leave / arrested for trespassing. Dave notified Session a couple months ago that a homeless person came in during service and entered the shower in the lower-level bathroom in the Children's SS level. Dave contacted the subject and asked if he needed assistance, and the male left hurriedly. Dave requested they post the signs, but to date they have not been installed.

Dave conducted a security survey of the Little Lambs Nursery at the request of Nicole who was concerned about strangers, active shooters, etc. It was determined that the best place for the kids and staff would be to hide in the bathroom, as it has a solid wood door and is out of the line of sight. To better secure the door from forcible entry, Dave is requesting the Property Team attach "L" brackets to the two doors so a bar / 2X4 can be placed across the door. Dave and Leann will meet with the Little Lambs staff and volunteers to train them on this and other noted security issues.

Linda talked about FirsTeam:

Linda has training for the FirsTeam on Saturday, Feb 10, and Tuesday Feb 13th.

Debbie spoke about the Coffee team:

Debbie discussed how the coffee machine is taking about 12 minutes between brews. This is creating issues with volunteers having to process the brew faster,

and some volunteers not wanting to participate any longer. Processing the brew faster means the water is not hot, which affects the temperature and taste. A new machine has been requested by her for the budget for a few years now. Property Team (John Wopata) checked it a year ago and said it was brewing within parameters. It is now beyond that point. A couple months ago it was learned that a coffee machine has been installed in the kitchen in the Ministry Center.

A possible work around would be the coffee team brew the coffee in that new machine and ferry it upstairs. This would only exacerbate the volunteers' load and they are already not happy with the defective machine being used now. We are requesting the Property Team re-visit this issue and see if there are funds to buy a new machine for the Coffee Team.

Next Meeting 03-05-24 7:00 AM