

Minutes

The Board of Directors of the FFCNC met at 11:45 AM on May 3, 2007 at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville with President Carol Andresen presiding.

The minutes were corrected and approved via E-mail and were accepted without being read.

Arnold gave the treasurer's report and noted that the Wachovia CD would mature in July, yielding approximately \$8,000.00

Marvin reported current membership at 30 families and 27 singles for a total of 87 persons.

The location of the June 11th dinner was changed to Fire Mountain restaurant in Kernersville due to ownership changes at The Farmers' Market Kitchen. The inclusive cost of the meal will be \$13.00. The announcement of the Peru exchange for 2008 will be made at this time.

Peter announced that he had the final roster for the Germany Exchange. Departure will be Wednesday, May 9th and Carol suggested seeing the group off at the airport between 10:30 and 11:00 AM.

Fred spoke briefly on the Big Sky Festival, noting that we were the only club attending the event as a group. Ambassadors are from the US, Canada and two from Japan. Our home stay will be in Helena. There will be an orientation meeting at the Andresen's on June 4th.

Paul addressed the inbound exchange from Japan, which will be September 27th through October 3rd. Japan is hoping to send 20 ambassadors and immediate action will be taken to secure hosts.

Howard noted the need for more people on the planning committee.

Howard announced that Lundee Amos will be the ED for the Peru exchange, noting that she has traveled widely and has good organizational skills. Carol has requested information on past ED's to Lima for both exchange and extended travel information.

Thanks to Fred for the balance of the minutes.

Activities

Ethnic restaurant idea embraced—past experience in Winston-Salem was good. It was suggested that we meet at a Japanese restaurant in mid-July. Carol will recruit a hostess for this event.

At the August 25th picnic there will be an emphasis on guests and foreign student groups. FFCNC will host with no charge. We need a chair for this event, which can also be our World Friendship Day. Groups to invite would be International Campus Ministries of the Triad, GTCC foreign students' club, Interlink at UNCG, ASF and other high school exchange students, Rotary, etc.

Goals for the Japanese inbound exchange will be to balance hosts between Forsyth and Guilford members and to try to have the entire membership attend the farewell event.

COMMUNICATION

Our newsletter is a stand-out among others in the Mid-Atlantic region—thanks Martha!

The June newsletter should include the Peru announcement, pictures and stories from the German outbound exchange, pictures and enticements for hosts for the Japan inbound exchange 09/27-10/03. Also of interest would be information on FFI exchanges from other regions and photos/stories from members' personal trips. It was suggested that tips for digital photos via E-mail for the newsletter be included.

Martha will edit outside material forwarded to members to conform to FFI goals.

There is a need for a “media person” to develop press relations. This person would be added to Paul's exchange team to capitalize on the Japan visit.

Mid-Atlantic Conference Information Gained:

ED is critical to successful clubs. Trips are evolving from complete packages including travel home stay and post-exchange travel. They may include home stay arrangements only or home stay including travel to and from the host city.

The regional meeting was more valuable than the International Conference, because it got down to nuts and bolts and allowed time with the Atlanta staff. It was suggested that 3-4 club members attend the next such meeting in two years. This meeting will probably be in south New Jersey.

Retention is as important as recruiting new members, so a database of former members is to be built and invitations issued to those who have become inactive. Inbound exchanges offer the best vehicle for involvement of the

membership as a whole. We also need to use activities to bind our geographically diverse group.

Other/Old Business

There was a broad discussion about funds in the Winston-Salem Foundation. It was agreed that we should exhibit fiduciary responsibility and be conservative with our capital, but due to lack of transparency within the Foundation, we will investigate moving these funds. Fred and Paul will meet and make recommendations at the 07/12/07 meeting. The decision on the disposition of the \$8000.00+ from the maturing CD will also be addressed at that time.

It was agreed that ED credits against their FFI exchange fees and travel expenses (including pre-trip lodging, if necessary) would be made on a pro-rata basis: 10 participants-50%, 20 participants-100%. Peter will develop a policy statement for this action to be presented at the next board meeting.

Attending: Carol and Fred Andresen, Paul Meis, Arnold Sporleder, Linda and Marvin Scherl, Nancy and Peter Peiffer, Howard Hicks, Ralph Cauthen, Martha Brown and Laura Lennon.

Laura Lennon
Secretary