

Minutes

The Board of Directors of the FFCNC met at 11:45am on November 15, 2007 at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville With President Carol Andresen presiding.

The minutes were corrected and approved.

Arnold gave the treasurer's report including supplementary reports.

Howard concluded that we had a busy and successful exchange year.

Ralph reported on the Russian Open World program acknowledging that he and Martha found it to be a lot of work! They received great detail on the delegates and thought it was a very positive experience. Martha handled arrangements for activities in Winston-Salem and Chapel Hill and Ralph handled Guilford County.

Lundee was not present to comment on the Peru exchange. Lundee had received checks from two travelers. There is some concern about filling the exchange.

Howard noted the need for a ED for the inbound Turkish exchange in October 2008. Their ED had previously hosted a FFI ambassador from Western North Carolina.

Carol Bryan was not present.

Carol A. suggested that 2008 domestic exchanges are an open possibility. We have agreed to host combined clubs from Montana in April of 2009; the latter could be in conjunction with Morganton and Raleigh.

Harrisburg, PA would like to join us for the 2009 Aichi exchange. We are waiting for final approval from Atlanta.

World Friendship Day is March 1, 2008. We noted the diversity and resources of the local colleges and universities and the need to better utilize these resources for such events.

Fred Andresen is pursuing membership development with three focus groups that will meet in Greensboro, High Point and Winston-Salem. A study done for FFI showed our members to average 55-75 years of age and our biggest competitor to be Elderhostel. We look forward to the results of the focus groups and hope that they will stimulate some new ideas.

Martha continues to add minutes, photos, etc. to our web-site and Carol will delve into the newsletter in 2008. She suggested that the newsletter might be briefer and perhaps monthly and would keep the membership apprised of activities, promote exchanges, etc.

Regarding the Annual Meeting on October 25th and the presentation by Donna Lambeth, Carol suggested that we make a contribution to FFI in Donna's honor. Howard made a motion to send \$500.00, which was accepted.

Conversation returned to the Russian visit with Carol commenting that the welcome gathering went well with good club participation. The visitors were given an opportunity to tell about themselves. Financially, the program worked within the \$3,500.00 budget. The Russians told of changed impressions of Americans, finding them friendly and generous. Carol noted that it was very hard to judge their reactions due to a lack of affect. Importantly, there were no emergencies. The Board members enjoyed hearing about the Peiffer's adventure with five of the delegates in downtown Greensboro. Hosts noted that people were tired and they were worried about Martha and Ralph who were working so hard!

Fred proposed a one-year membership for the three host families who were not members. This was followed by a motion that a one-year gift membership be given to any non-member host(s). The motion was approved.

Marvin announced that only 30 of the 60 family groups had renewed as of this meeting and that a second mailing was due.

Ralph announced his board members:
Fred Andresen, Vice President / Membership Chair
Barbara North, Secretary
Arnold Sporleder, Treasurer
Martha Brown, Communications Chair
Laura Lennon, Exchanges Chair
Linda and Marvin Scherl, Membership Records Chairs
Peter Peiffer, President Elect
Carol Andresen, Past President/Publicity

Activities Chair has yet to be announced.

Paul Meis will remain on the Exchanges Committee as past ED. Howard Hicks will be rotating off the Board.

Board meetings will continue to be at 11:45am on Thursdays at the church. A gift of \$75.00 was given to the church for use of the auditorium for the Annual Meeting and it was agreed to give \$100.00 to the pastor's discretionary fund for use of the Board's meeting room.

The Annual Meeting will be in late October, possibly at the farewell party for Turkey.

Howard suggesting changing the Nominating Committee to be composed of the three past Presidents as was done by CIU.

Ralph noted that the Board is to confirm committee chairpersons. Each chair should select three committee members and submit a written report quarterly.

Attending: Carol and Fred Andresen, Nancy and Peter Peiffer, Arnold Sporleder, Howard Hicks, Ralph Cauthen, Laura Lennon.

Laura Lennon
Secretary