

Minutes of Friendship Force of Central North Carolina (FFCNC)

www.ffcnc.org

May 15, 2008

Present: Ralph Cauthen, Fred Andresen, Barbara North, Peter and Nancy Peiffer, Lundee Amos, Marvin and Linda Scherl, Arnold Sporleder, and Martha Brown

The Board of Directors of the FFCNC met on Thursday, May 15, 2008, at 11:45 a.m. at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville, NC, for their regularly scheduled meeting. The minutes of the last meeting on March 20, 2008 were approved as emailed to the Board.

Finance and Budget: Arnold Sporleder reported that the club had a bank balance of \$4,406.54 which included \$1793.56 for FFI for the Peru exchange. The Winston Salem Foundation showed a loss of \$1007.67. Total assets of the chapter totaled \$23, 183.59 for the period ending May 12, 2008. The budget for 2008 projects total expenses to be \$2110 with a total income of \$2521, including a \$1000 transfer from the CD. A full financial report is on file with the minutes.

Activities:

- (1) The next LEO will be held on June 5th at the Taste of Thai in Greensboro. Donna Lambeth is to speak on her recent trip to Vietnam. A reminder will be sent in late May to announce the speaker. Carol Andresen has already sent a press release to the local newspaper.
- (2) Post-Peru Membership meeting – Ruth Jackson will be hosting some German guests the week of August 23rd. A club-wide event is tentatively scheduled in August to include the German guests and the Peru exchange ambassadors. (Note: a decision was later made to limit the August event to German exchange participants.)
- (3) Thursday, October 30th, was selected for a covered dish annual meeting at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville. Halloween was suggested as a possible theme.

Membership Development Report: on Tuesday, May 20th, a group of 8 members are scheduled to travel to Smith Mountain Lake for a day trip. A membership committee is suggested to handle follow-ups with new prospects from LEO's. A covered dish membership meeting is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on September 4, 2008 at Knollwood Baptist Church. The guest speaker is Jerry Pubantz, a well-known professor from UNC-G, who will speak about Islam. All members

and prospects will be notified of the meeting. Fred has contacted 32 out of the list of 50 new member prospects. An updated membership report was mailed to the Board on 5/19/08. The club has gained 11 "new" members who were former members, but lost 4 members from last year who failed to renew. In addition, complimentary memberships were given to 4 people.

Exchanges:

- (1) Peru – 13 people are going to Peru. There are 2 others who have shown an interest, but not committed at this time. The host names for the group have not been communicated to date. The workshop for the exchange is scheduled for Saturday, May 17th, at the Center for Creative Leadership. Carol Andresen has been in charge of the meeting arrangements.
- (2) Turkey - the Secretary presented the report for the co-chairs, Jim North and Ruth Jackson. The first planning meeting for the exchange was held on Tuesday, April 29th, at the home of Ralph Cauthen. All host families have now been selected. A roster of hosts has been sent to the Turkey ED. In lieu of a personal ED club gift, a memorial dogwood tree will be presented to the Turkey group to be planted in one of our city parks in recognition of their visit. The cultural workshop for this exchange is scheduled for September 20 at 2:30 p.m. at GTCC. At Don Sylvester's request, Mr. Murat Kaptanoglu has agreed to be the resource person for this event. The exchange has been extended by two additional days. The group will arrive on Wednesday, October 8th, and now depart on Wednesday, October 15th. The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 27th at 2 p.m. Kit Ravenel and Sue Schock will join the planning committee. Ruth Jackson and Jim North were approved as co-chair EDs by the Board for this exchange.
- (3) Montana – this inbound exchange of approximately 17-20 people will be a weekend event, April 17-19, 2009. Carol Andresen was approved by the Board as ED for this exchange.
- (4) Japan – an ED is still needed for this outbound exchange which is scheduled for November 9-15th of 2009. The exchange time was set to precede the FFI convention to be held in Okinawa November 19-22.

Old Business:

- (1) Report from President's Roundtable - Peter and Nancy Peiffer and Ralph and Jane Cauthen attended the Mid-Atlantic meeting of the President's Roundtable, held in Charleston, WV, on April 4-5, 2008. A summary of the meeting was distributed to the Board and is included with these minutes. Most discussions centered on membership issues. New ideas on fund raising, club gifts, and forming strategic alliances with other

groups were exchanged. The basic purpose of FFI, intercultural understanding, was emphasized. It was suggested exchanges be themed as educational, activity, religious or humanitarian. In 2010, the meeting will be held in conjunction with the FFI conference. The international conference expenses are approximately \$1200 without travel costs. It was suggested FFI make these trips more cost effective.

- (2) Brochure– Fred requested the names of newspapers that members read and asked for feedback if the Board sees or hears any announcements concerning FFCNC. A simple tri-fold brochure, describing FFCNC, is now available to give to prospective members. Several brochures were distributed to the Board members.

New Business:

Strategic Goals - a long range plan for FFI has been distributed to the club presidents. The goal of the organization is to grow while carrying out its mission to promote international understanding. The plan is divided into four distinct objectives as follows: (1) gain new relevance by focusing on current global challenges, i.e., global themes are encouraged for exchanges, (2) increase its recognition by presenting itself as a community-based organization, i.e., develop partnerships with other community organizations, (3) create a sustainable club model that will result in expanded club membership, i.e., develop innovative ways to attract new members; identify, train, and retain new leaders, (4) maximize its organizational effectiveness; i.e., evaluate and improve corporate infrastructure; expand use of the internet. This long range plan will guide the direction of headquarters and local chapters.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Barbara North, Secretary

July 25, 2008