

Minutes of Friendship Force of Central North Carolina (FFCNC)

www.ffcnc.org

January 15, 2009

Present: Ralph Cauthen, Fred Andresen, Barbara North, Peter and Nancy Peiffer, Marvin Scherl, Arnold Sporleder, Paul and Marcia Meis, and Martha Brown

The new 2009 Board of Directors of the FFCNC met on Thursday, January 15, 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 November 20, 2008 were approved as revised and previously emailed to the Board. As a follow-up to the minutes, Ralph clarified that Donna Lambeth would send copies of the Articles of Incorporation and the letter granting tax exempt status to our chapter for our records.

Financial Report:

Arnold circulated the year-end financial report. Expenses for the past year exceeded our income by \$387.54. All expenses/income for the 2008 Peru exchange have been reconciled and the account is closed. Arnold reported a bank balance of \$3578.12 and \$4,769.92 in a CD as of 12/31/08. The CD matures in March and will be rolled over unless additional money is needed. The assets held by the Winston Foundation have declined in market value. As of 9/31/08, a value of \$13,896 was reported. A year-end report is expected this month. (The Foundation's year-end report showed an ending balance of \$11,992.30 with a loss of \$4951.61 for the year.) A full financial report is on file with the minutes.

Inbound Exchange from Harrisburg – in Carol's absence, Fred reported 17 people are expected to arrive in Greensboro on Monday, May 11, and leave on Friday, May 15th. Plans include a welcome party at a Grasshoppers' baseball game on Tuesday night, May 12th, and a farewell dinner at Main Street United Methodist Church on Thursday, May 14th. (A subsequent email from Carol corrected the site of the two events. The Welcome Party will be held at the church, while the Farewell Party will be at the Grasshoppers game. The Welcome Party will be a potluck dinner with a Japanese theme and speaker. Unfortunately, at the Grasshoppers' game, all three party decks are reserved. Carol has tentatively made a reservation for 35 for the all-you-can-eat picnic (\$13) and box seats (\$7.50) together.) Martha volunteered to check on the status of the new Winston-Salem stadium as a possible party location. There was some discussion on the inbound exchange budget of \$100/person and whether domestic exchanges should be supported at the same price as international exchanges. The board felt domestic

exchanges should be less. A motion was made and seconded to match any Harrisburg contribution up to \$50 per person. It was noted that Old Salem will be closed for renovations the week of the exchange but walking tours of the area would still be possible. Bethabara was mentioned as a possible historic site to visit. Since their main interest (Old Salem) will be closed, the Board questioned if they would want to move the exchange dates.

Membership Report: Members who have not yet renewed for this year were assigned to be contacted by various members of the Board. A potential members list was distributed and discussed. The list will be shortened to reduce mailing expenses. A postcard with the web address will be sent to those who will be dropped off the list. As past president, Ralph has volunteered to be an informal contact for new members for welcome and orientation discussions.

Committees and Schedule for 2009 – Peter distributed a calendar of events for 2009 including board meetings and LEO's and a current list of board and committee members. Upcoming events include the excursion to Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theatre in Wytheville, Virginia on Saturday, February 28th. There are 26 people signed up, 14 of which are Friendship Force members.

Exchanges –

The Mid Atlantic Conference will be held April 3-5 in Long Beach Island, New Jersey and is open to all members. A post-conference home stay in the Delaware Valley, April 5-8, is being offered.

An ED is still needed for the outbound Japanese exchange from our chapter. The ED from the Harrisburg group will not be going to Japan; however, her assistant will go in her place.

LEO and Calendar Report– Ralph reported that the next LEO will be on Tuesday, March 24th, at 6:30 p.m. at the Mediterranean restaurant, Zatoons, in downtown Greensboro. Dinner will cost \$16 and will be served at 7 p.m. It will be a private event as the restaurant will not be open to the public that evening. Arrangements for the LEO have been made by Patti Gilmore. Ralph proposed this LEO be an International Friendship Day event with each member bringing an international visitor. Pam Kahl is handling the LEO in June in Winston-Salem.

Thursday, October 22, was set as the date for the annual meeting at the church. If this date is not available, October 15, is a second choice. The church will be contacted to reserve a date.

Web Page Changes – Martha reported the FFCNC website has been updated but the new FFI logo needs to be incorporated. Marvin suggested using Photoshop software to help modify photos.

Old Business – labels with the FFCNC website have been affixed by Carol to the new FFI brochures for distribution at our LEOs.

New Business – Atlanta is promoting a FFI trip to Morocco April 21-May 5th.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned until March 19th.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara S. North

Secretary