

Minutes of Friendship Force of Central North Carolina (FFCNC)

www.ffcnc.org

September 17, 2009

Present: Carol and Fred Andresen, Ralph Cauthen, Barbara North, Peter and Nancy Peiffer, Marvin Scherl, and Arnold Sporleder

The 2009 Board of Directors of the FFCNC met on Thursday, September 17, 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 July 16, 2009 were approved as previously corrected and emailed to the Board.

**Financial Report:** Arnold circulated the financial report ending September 17, 2009. Current assets of \$18,030.30 include a bank account balance of \$3448.91, the Wachovia CD for \$3299.72, and the Winston Foundation valued at \$11,281.67. An additional \$7,130 is being held for the Japanese exchange. A full financial report is on file with the minutes. It was clarified that Paul is a co-signer on any checks in Arnold's absence.

**Schedule Update:** Peter distributed an updated calendar for 2009 and early 2010. The annual meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 29, at the Kernersville Main Street United Methodist Church. The LEO originally planned for September was not scheduled. Ralph suggested a winter event be planned as a substitute. Carol reminded the Board of a previous request to have a breakfast event during the winter since it becomes dark earlier in the evenings. One suggestion was a pancake breakfast to provide a forum for feedback from the Japan exchange. Other suggestions included a holiday concert event and small group dinners. Ralph also suggested planning an event for World Friendship Day in March 2010. Ralph will lay the groundwork for some activities and will pass on to a committee to complete the plans for 2010.

**Exchanges:**

Japan Outbound Exchange –Peter reported a total of 14 persons have now signed up for the outbound exchange, nine from our club, three from the Harrisburg, PA club, and two from Sonoma, California. All ambassador fees have been paid; approximately \$3600 per person. Peter is to check with the US State Department website concerning any travel restrictions due to the H1N1 virus. Peter has recommended everyone traveling on the exchange get cancellation insurance. No hotel information is currently available and Peter will ask for Frequent Flier information to pass on to the travel agent.

Inbound Exchange from Australia - Judy Greene has agreed to be ED for the inbound exchange from Australia along with the assistance of a committee. Several persons were suggested as possible members of the committee – Margaret Griffin, Helen Lowry, Valerie Stokes, and/or Doris Kiszely. Jim North has agreed to be a mentor for the exchange. Both Jim and Carol Andresen will also pass on to Judy any information they have from past in-bound exchanges. Peter and Ralph will work together with Judy to organize the committee. Judy's appointment as ED for the inbound exchange was approved by the Board. The group from Australia will be coming to the Piedmont Triad first and then travel to Colorado due to the differences in the weather in May. The ED from Brisbane, Australia has been assigned.

Outbound Exchange to New Zealand – Ralph Cauthen was suggested as the ED for the outbound exchange to New Zealand. His appointment was approved by the Board. Our chapter has contact names for the Auckland and Dunedin clubs.

#### **Reports :**

On September 9, 2009, Peter spoke to a group of about 60 people of the Piedmont Triad Council for International Visitors (PTCIV) about Friendship Force. Ralph Cauthen acknowledged Peter's contribution to the meeting and expressed his appreciation on behalf of our club. The Kiszely's were responsible for setting up this meeting.

Mid-Atlantic President's Conference - the Mid-Atlantic Presidents Conference is scheduled for April 8-10, 2010 in Greensboro, NC. FFCNC will be host for this biannual meeting. On September 15, Fred emailed the Board members his tentative plans for the event. The Hilton Garden Inn near I-40 and Guilford College Road has been selected as the headquarters for the meeting. A Friday night "banquet" is planned and will be open to all visitors and FFCNC members. The location for the Friday night event is yet to be determined. The preferred location is Winston-Salem; however, the Women's Club in High Point was also mentioned as a possibility. The speaker at this event will be Jim Kirkpatrick, former Guilford County Commissioner and chair of the Guilford Battleground Company. The cost of the banquet for members is anticipated to be around \$30. Fred is compiling a list of potential homestay hosts for those not wishing to stay at the Hilton Garden Inn. In addition, several day hosts will be needed. Karen Smith, our Regional Rep, has asked if the Northeast Region could also send delegates to the meeting since their meeting was canceled. The Board approved her request. Karen is actually responsible for the content of the conference program.

Friendship Force International Conference – this meeting is to be held in Washington, DC in October 2010. Even though we are too far away to be considered for any hosting activities, FFI will be recruiting for club volunteers to work during the meeting. The initial notice of the

meeting should be sent out in late October but registration will not occur until after the first of 2010.

LEOs – The Board expressed their thanks to Marilyn Baird for hosting the Lake Norman picnic on August 22 and to the other club volunteers who made the outing a success.

**Exchange Requests for 2011:** Requests for 2011 exchanges is due to FFI headquarters by November 1. The Board suggested resubmitting the same list as last year with some additional shorter destinations, i.e., Cuba and Costa Rica.

**Membership:** Fred reported the addition of 4 families for a total of 7 new members of FFCNC.

**Nominating Committee:** Marvin Scherl, Arnold Sporleder and Martha Brown have all agreed to be on the slate for 2011 in their current positions. Candidates for other positions are being considered.

**Publicity:** Carol Andresen has proposed the club purchase a portable wireless PA system to be used for our club events. The cost is approximately \$539 plus shipping. The Board approved the purchase.

**Old Business:** Ralph reported Form 990N is required to be filed electronically to the IRS for non-profit organizations on an annual basis. If the form is not filed for three years, the club will lose its non-profit status. The form will be filed with Arnold's address and with Peter listed as the officer. A copy of the form will be kept for our historical files. This paperwork is due to the IRS by February 15<sup>th</sup> each year. Arnold, as treasurer, will be responsible for the filing.

The name change for the chapter still needs to be filed with the State and then reported to the IRS.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned until the next Board meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009.

Respectfully submitted on November 22, 2009,

Barbara S. North

Secretary