

“The Mission of Friendship Force is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people”

## Minutes of Friendship Force of Central North Carolina

April 23, 2015

**Present:** Ray Kiszely, Leroy Stokes, Tim Prout, Martha Brown, Nancy Russell, Marvin Scherl, Hal Guess, Judy Greene, Karla Shanahan, Barbara North, Ophelia Jones and Ralph Cauthen. (11)

The Board of Directors of FFCNC met on Thursday, April 23 because of the upcoming Open World inbound from Kosovo from May 1-9, 2015. The meeting was held at 10:30 AM at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville, NC. Mr. Leroy Stokes, the president, opened the meeting with a welcome and a consent agenda was provided by email.

The minutes were approved, except for the approval of the words “and approved” after the two motions which were made. The Membership email was accepted, as well as the treasurer’s report.

### **Old Business:**

- Changes to ED Policies - Compensation to outbound ED’s is left up to individual clubs. Barbara is to rewrite the changes in the ED policies and circulate to the board for review and approval.
- Southeastern Regional Conference- Held in Anderson, SC on April 8-10. Joy Benedetto, President and CEO from the Atlantic office introduced the Strategic Plan with a goal to set FFI on a sustainable course for the next and future generations. There were four members from our club who attended the conference and they were Ray Kiszely, Judy Greene, Barbara North , and Jennie Ray. Barbara highlighted the main points which were as follows: The FFI strategic Plan for 2015-2018 are 8 overarching initiatives which are designed to increase participation in exchanges by 10% over the next three years. 1. Enrich Friendship Force Exchanges. 2. Maximize Exchange Participation & Hosting Capacity. 3. NextGen for everyone. 4. Leadership Development 5. Branding & Marketing 6. Leverage Modern Technology 7. Partnerships 8. Enhance & Secure Revenue Streams. A flier was distributed that explained each initiative for the Strategic Plan.
- The Open World inbound from Kosovo update was given by Ralph Cauthen and Ray Kiszely. The date of the visitors arrival will be May 1 and they will leave on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Invitations will be sent out for welcome and farewell dinners. There will be 5 delegates and 1 facilitator to be sent from Kosovo. Everything is on task for their first visit in the United States. Ray gave a day by day report to explain activities and day host duties. The Cultural Understanding portion of the program will be centered in Winston-Salem and the Professional Educational portion will be centered in Greensboro. Judy Greene will assist in the home visit coordination’s.

- There was a proposal made for those participants who would like to participate in these future conferences to share the expense of attending with our club. This will be placed on the agenda for the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting and it was also suggested to bring a solution.
- The UK inbound exchange in October update for 10 ambassadors from October 1-7<sup>th</sup> 2015. It was suggested that some host would accompany the ambassadors on their drive to Florence, SC on Oct 8<sup>th</sup>. Ray Kiszely will be working on this exchange.
- Russian outbound update was given by Martha, the ED for this exchange. The June 9 thru 26 exchange has been planned for every detail by Martha and her group. The updated memo on the Outbound Exchange to Moscow on April 21, 2015 was distributed to the board prior to the meeting.
- The Colorado domestic outbound will occur in June or July 2016. Judy Greene will be the ED for this excursion.
- The outbound excursion to Liuzhou, China in September 2016 is still a possibility. Leroy is still working with FFI Program Director Maryam Jordan who is attempting to contact someone in Liuzhou involved with our exchange. The foreign affairs office is suppose to get back in touch with the Program Director. More Updates are pending.

#### **New Business:**

- The inbound exchange from the Sunshine Coast, Australia to Greater Atlanta and Central North Carolina added Huntsville, Alabama to their list of places to visit. Judy will poll the group who went to Australia last year to get more information for a possible ED. This was an April 2016 exchange. More information is needed as well as an ED for this excursion.
- The Portland Oregon domestic outbound in 2018 is an option. An ED is needed. Some suggestions was that the Rose Festival was a particular interesting time to visit. May was our suggested month.
- The Open World visit in October 2015- FFCNC has been asked to work with the Guilford Rotary Club who will hosting an Open World delegation of Moldovan nurses in September 2015. There are no particular dates as yet. Further communication will continue.
  - ✓ Some old business that needed to be discussed was the new projector. Barbara held all the information on the use and registration of the paperwork for the FFCNC. The board decided to ask Peter Pfeiffer to be the gate keeper of the projector. Pending questions for the next meeting: should it be lent to other members? How much should we charge?
  - ✓ Ray talked about the home stays needed for Chinese aviation students coming from China, on July 26<sup>th</sup>, until early September, 20 students would need weekend home stays. Contact Ray or more information.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM, the next meeting will be at the MSUMC, Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ophelia Jones, Secretary