

“Experience different views. Discover common ground.”

Minutes of FFCNC Board Meeting

Thursday, September 7, 2017

Winston-Salem Foundation, Winston-Salem, NC @ 10:00 a.m., Pfefferkorn Conf. Room

Present: Martha Brown, Ray Kiszely, Charlotte Hamlin, Judy Greene, Crista Douthit, Marilyn John, Charles John, Leroy Stokes, Peter Pfeiffer, Ralph Cauthen, and Lucy Kaplan. Absent: Barbara North.

In the absence of Barbara North who is in Greece, Martha Brown served as facilitator and called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., welcoming everyone.

- 1) **Consent Agenda Items:** (Information distributed prior to the meeting)
 - a) **Minutes of August 10, 2017** taken by Ray Kiszely. No changes recommended.
 - b) **Journey updates**
 - i) Global Arts Themed Journey Update (July 31-Aug.7) – Judy Greene reported that the feedback on all the activities had been very positive.
 - ii) Northeast Ohio Outbound Journey Update (Aug. 22-29) – Peter Peiffer and Ralph Cauthen expressed appreciation to the NE Ohio group for their hospitality and excellent journey.
 - iii) Moscow Inbound Journey Update (Nov. 20-27) Crista Douthit. Amid ongoing conversations between Crista, Moscow and Atlanta, there continue to be concerns about the ability of interested participants from Moscow to obtain visas from the Moscow Embassy, and the Atlanta club declines to host any additional ambassadors not from the Moscow club. The journey has been advertised in the Sept. FFI catalog with a cut-off date of Sept. 29th. Plan for activities are well in hand and essential deposits have been made.
 - iv) Bundaberg, Australia Journey Update (Oct. 9-16, 2018) – Martha Brown
No Journey Coordinator has yet been identified. Inquiries continue.
 - c) GoDaddy Update – Crista Douthit. Martha thanked Crista on behalf of the board for her report and dedicated work overseeing this project and moving ahead on the website update.
Minutes and Reports approved.

- 2) **Treasurer’s Report** – Ray Kiszely distributed copies of the financial report dated Sept. 6, 2017 and noted that, while adjustments are still being made, small surplus amounts have accrued for both the Inbound Arts program and Northern Ohio outbound journey. The \$3,000 transferred from the Winston Salem Foundation to possibly underwrite expenses for the Inbound Arts program was not needed. After discussion, **the board approved the financial report and voted to retain the WSF funds in the club checking account for the time being.** The Wells Fargo account balance stands at \$6,247 prior to final adjustments for recent journeys.
- 3) **New at-large member** for remainder of 2017. Lucy Kaplan was introduced to the **board and approved as a board member to fill a vacancy through December.**
- 4) **Nominating Committee:** Ophelia Jones, Leroy Stokes, & Peter Peiffer will serve in that role.
- 5) **Annual Membership Meeting** – Martha reported that Barbara & Hal Guess have agreed to assist with room setup for the annual meeting on Tuesday, October 24th. UNCG history professor Jeff Jones is confirmed as

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speaker on contemporary Russian issues, and we are waiting to hear about the availability of the church IT technician, John Higgins.

- 6) **Outbound Journey Questionnaire** – Martha prepared a questionnaire that Zella Harris has distributed to the membership to assess travel interest in future Outbound Journeys and potential coordinators. Martha will compile the results and report to the board.
- 7) **Oklahoma City inbound or outbound journey in '18 or '19.** Judy Greene reported that interest in exchanges had been expressed by a FF member from Oklahoma City who attended the Arts Journey. Board members were receptive to the idea of both inbound and outbound journeys and discussed possible dates in 2018 and 2019. Judy is willing to be Coordinator for an Outbound Journey to Oklahoma City and agreed to contact the club there.
- 8) **Club organizational structure for 2018:** Martha gave an overview of key issues about organizational leadership and structure for 2018 and reported a conversation with Steve Tindall of Pike’s Peak FF which served as a model for our LC trial. A proposal must be presented to the membership on October 24th as the one year Leadership Council (LC) trial draws to its end. Discussion addressed the comparative merits of retaining the LC in which elected members agree to serve on the LC and then assume specific roles/areas of responsibility rather than the past practice of specific officer positions and at large members. The value of having members serve for two years with staggered terms was raised. After extensive discussion of the trial structure and need for continuity, the **board voted to continue the Leadership Council model for TWO YEARS starting in 2018**, with the slate nominated for next year to serve one year terms. Several current board members expressed to representatives of the Nominating Committee that they would be willing to serve on the LC next year in specific areas of responsibility.
- 9) **Budget – Ray Kiszely** Ray distributed a summary of elements of the club’s annual operating budget based on 2016 outlays, which included revenue from members and expenses for use of UMC facilities, annual meeting costs, website maintenance and miscellaneous expenses, with the largest expense (60%) being the Charter Fee to FFI. During our last board meeting Ray reported that our non-journey related revenue and expenses generally results in a net of few dollars, so the current budget does not allow for host journey compensation/reward. After discussion, **board members agreed that membership dues increase should not be proposed for 2018 and approved a 50/50 raffle fundraiser at the October membership meeting.** Ray agreed to get the raffle tickets and Charlotte will sell them at the meeting.
- 10) **Journey Coordinator Guidelines** – Martha Brown Time did not allow for discussion of the recommended guidelines which Martha had prepared for Journey Coordinator Policies, so that will be placed on the October agenda.
- 11) **Next Board meeting – Thursday, October 12th.** Appreciation was expressed for use of the fine conference room at the Winston Salem Foundation which is available for future meetings. After discussion, it was agreed that Lucy Kaplan would contact the new downtown Winston-Salem library about use of a room for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m. Minutes submitted by Charlotte Hamlin, Secretary 9/12/17