

The mission of the Friendship Force is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people.

Friendship Force of Central North Carolina Minutes of Board Meeting, November 1, 2018

Members Present: Barbara North, Ray Kiszely, Martha Brown, Don Sylvester, Patti Gilmour

Consent Agenda Items: Minutes of September 13, 2018 were approved by Martha and seconded by Barbara.

Treasurer's Report: Ray passed out the Treasurer's Report. The motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Don and seconded by Patti.

-it was noted that a number of members who participated in meals and events related to the incoming Bundaberg journey last month and that were initially paid by the club have been asked to reimburse the club by sending their checks to Ray.

-Don suggested that, at a future meeting, we should revisit and discuss the club's strategy for the role of the funds in the club's account in the Winston-Salem Foundation.

-Barbara will follow-up with Crista as to whether the Treasurer's Report, or other documents, once uploaded to Go Daddy, could then be printed or copied.

The Upcoming Transition in the Council

-The December Board meeting will be held on December 13th (with the 2018 Council members together with the 2019 new member and new council member-at-large).

-Transitioning Roles: Martha Brown and Marylin will be transitioning off the Board/Council. Martha has offered to help the next Journey Coordinator as needed. Martha will attend the December meeting for the purpose of aiding the transition.

It is hoped that Marylin will be able to attend as well. Don will ask Marylin if she can plan and lead the orientation in January for the new members.

-It was agreed that each Council member will write down their various responsibilities and tasks in their current role, so it can be used as a guide for future Council members who assume those roles.

Learnings from the year:

Bundaberg Incoming Journey

- Barbara will write to the leader of the Bundaberg journey Graham to ask if they can give us feedback on their visit with us.
- Don suggested that all journey coordinators record their learnings from their journey (what worked well and not so well, what they would repeat or do differently, etc) and that such information be collected and retained for future journey coordinators.
- It was also suggested that for all future club events we keep a record of who attended (perhaps working from a RSVP list and marking which members actually attended).

FFCNC 2018 Annual Meeting:

- Don handed out a summary of observations about the annual meeting and a discussion ensued. Some possible annual meeting changes in the future were discussed and some of the ideas were accepted, such as:
 - begin planning in August, form a subcommittee, get early input from the Board on the program
 - consider an alternative timing, eg., Saturday afternoon
 - consider an alternative location
 - consider input from members about the content of the program
 - consider a second/semi-annual meeting (perhaps social only or with only some business).
- It was noted that an alternative format for a second semi-annual meeting in which some “business” could be discussed could be small gatherings like those we had last May (which combined a social element with a discussion about recruiting new members) At those three gatherings, we were able to get more members to attend than we seem to be able to get to attend the annual meeting and most LEOs.
- At the Annual Meeting sheets were handed out to the members regarding volunteering for subcommittees and tasks for the club. Only 17 of the 33 attendees completed these sheets. Since less than half the membership attended the Annual Meeting, it was decided that Patti would send the sheets to those who did not attend. A letter would be attached explaining the request and asking members to return the sheets if they can volunteer. New members would be excluded at this time, as volunteering is expected to be part of the orientation session to be held for new members in January, 2019.

Update on Journeys and Open World - Martha Brown

-The Open World program, which begins November 9, seems to be ready.

-Martha reported that there were no updates on the Brazil incoming journey and it is still uncertain as to whether it will actually take place.

-2019 Outgoing Journey to Vietnam and Thailand:

Ray has offered to be the Journey Coordinator for this trip in the fall of 2019. Martha reported that Judy Greene may be interested in being a co-coordinator with Ray. Patti moved to accept both as Journey Coordinators and Barbara seconded it. It was agreed that there would be travel credits for both of them.

Martha will update the summary of Journey Coordinator credits.

-2020 Outbound International Destinations Request from FFI (which must be submitted by Nov 1):

Martha reported that she had received only 22 respondents to our club survey. The Council chose Western Canada, South Africa and Costa Rica, in that order of preference, as our top three choices.

Martha reported that Ralph Cauthen indicated that he would be willing to serve as Journey Coordinator to Western Canada, if that becomes our match.

-Martha also reported that there is still an agreement between the Oklahoma City club and our club for them to visit us in 2020.

-Our club has not yet settled on a domestic inbound/outbound for 2019.

Social Events: Karla was out of town

-Once she returns from her current trip, Karla will begin working on her proposal of social events for 2019.

-She will reschedule the cancelled House of Plants LEO for the Spring.

-It has not been decided if we will have a social event in January or February.

-There was a discussion about how frequently we should have social events next year, versus the target in 2018 of one every other month.

Ray suggested that perhaps we should consider regular monthly events.

Membership: Marylin was out of town

-An orientation for new members, to be held in January, was discussed at the last Board meeting. The Council wants this to go forward.

Don will contact Marylin about this once she returns from her current trip.

-The Let's Go Seniors presentation is scheduled for Jan. 22, 2019.

Ralph Cauthen has offered to manage it. Don will follow-up with him.
-Ophelia will contact local universities about possible recruitment opportunities. Don or Marylin will follow-up with her and report on this at the next meeting.

Other:

Don asked for names to contact about doing the Treasurer's audit before March 1, 2019. It was suggested that he contact Tim Prout, which he will do. Judy Greene was suggested as an alternative.

Meeting Adjourned:

Don moved to adjourn the meeting, Barbara seconded it. Meeting adjourned.