

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, May 9, 2019

Piedmont Triad Regional Council, Kernersville, NC

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Don Sylvester, Barbara North, Mary Davis, Ray Kiszely, Patti Gilmour, Charles John (Journey Coordinator for Brazil), Woody Clinard (Member-at-Large), Ann Barefield (Member Observer)

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Minutes of April 11, 2019 were approved by Mary Davis and seconded by Barbara North.

Treasurer's Report was approved by Mary Davis and seconded by Barbara North.

**JOURNEYS' UPDATES:**

**2019**

**-Inbound International Journey (Brazil) - Charles John**

-Charles did not have any questions regarding the inbound journey. Everything is in place for the arrival of the Brazilian ambassadors. He noted that, for the day trip to Raleigh for the ambassadors, they and their hosts will be able to choose which of three options there would be interesting for them.

-Charles will arrange to have the club banner at the airport along with a group of hosts to welcome the Brazilians.

-Charles reported that Viv May had been helpful in having a notice concerning the Brazilians' journey to the Triad printed in each of the newspapers of the cities/towns they will be visiting. The Board was very pleased that this form of advertising for the club was being done and thanked Charles for initiating this.

-Ray reported on the liability insurance problem that had developed regarding the rental of the facility at Salem College where the Welcome Party will be held. A required liability insurance policy costing \$188 had been purchased from an insurance company recommended by Salem College. It was later noted by Barbara that FFI offered a blanket policy for these types of events. Initially the insurance company refused to refund the \$188. Ray persevered, contacted the NC Insurance Commission and laid a complaint. The result was very positive - the refund was made to the club by the insurance company. Thank you, Ray!

-With regard to future journeys, inbound or outbound, Mary suggested that club members purchase club t-shirts. Barbara said that the t-shirts can be purchased on-line.

#### **-Domestic Outbound Journey - Ray Kiszely & Don Sylvester**

-Ray reported that, after sending out two messages to the club advertising the possible domestic journey to Greater Lansing Michigan, he had a total of 7 yes's and a total of 9 no's. For those who expressed interest, their choices of possible dates were varied.

-It was decided that Ray will call the Lansing club first and ask them what their minimum number of ambassadors would be. If it is possible to proceed with our numbers, Ray will then contact those interested to determine which dates are not possible for them, so we can determine the time period when the maximum number of people can participate. He will also ask those interested if one of them would volunteer to be the journey coordinator for the trip. With this feedback we will have to determine if the journey can take place, so we can notify the Lansing club as soon as possible.

#### **2020**

#### **-Outbound International Journey (Lethbridge, Canada) - Don Sylvester**

-Don reported that Ralph Cauthen has volunteered to be the

Journey Coordinator. The journey is tentatively scheduled for some time in July.

### **-Inbound International Journey**

- Don reported that FFI has just assigned a match for our club. We are matched with Sydney, Australia, with a tentative April timing. Their club will also be going to Washington, DC and they have asked us and the Washington club if we could host either April or May. The Council decided that our club could be flexible and have them come in either month.
- Don will contact the Sydney club and the Washington, DC club and inform them of this decision.
- A journey coordinator for our club will be needed.

### **-Domestic Inbound Journey (Oklahoma City) - Barbara North**

- Barbara reported that the Oklahoma City club had recently inquired about when they could visit us in 2020. We gave them five time periods, but three of these periods were between April and June. Since the Council has decided to invite the Sydney club to come in April or May, Barbara will contact the Oklahoma club and ask them if the latter two periods (September or October) would work for them.
- A journey coordinator will be needed. The only member that has expressed some interest so far is Judy Greene.

### **-Domestic Outbound Journey**

- There was a discussion about whether to pursue this option in 2020. It was decided that, since the club is going to try to organize an outgoing journey to Canada, we probably will not have a domestic outbound journey that year.

## **PLANNING THE SECOND HALF OF 2019 - Don Sylvester**

### **-Board vs Council?**

Don asked the Council to discuss the merits of the Board system versus the Council system and to choose which system we currently prefer, so we can instruct the nominating committee as they solicit new members for next year's leadership.

After a lengthy discussion, the Council members voted 5 to 2 for a preference for the Council system over the prior Board system. It was decided to proceed with the assumption (until the membership votes in the Fall) that the Council system will be used next year.

#### -Nominating Committee

Patti reported that three club members have agreed to be on the nominating committee to find members to join the Council in 2020: Woody Clinard, Jane Cauthen and Nancy Peiffer.

-The nominating committee will be informed of the assumption that the Council system will be continued. Future Council members will be asked to join the Council, where hopefully there will be some flexibility to take on different tasks and to share tasks.

-At the first meeting of the new Council in December 2019, the tasks will be discussed and selected by the Council members. New Council members will commit to serve at least one year.

-The Council suggested that, if possible, 5 people should be asked to join the Council.

-Two of the three current Council members who will continue to serve on the Council were present (Mary and Ray) and agreed to be flexible concerning their future duties.

-Current Council members who will be leaving the Board, (Don, Barbara, and Patti) agreed to attend the meeting for the new Council in December to assist in a smooth transition and to offer assistance, if requested, to the new members.

-It was also suggested that the nominating committee ask members who are not ready to join the Council whether they would be willing to be a Member-at-Large on the Board so that they can become more familiar with the operations of the club. This might encourage more members to eventually take on Council positions in the future.

#### -Annual Meeting

Don suggested that because the annual meeting will be held on October 12, it would be wise to start organizing the meeting no later than August 15th.

As yet there has been no decision as to whom will be responsible for organizing it and finding a team to work on it.

## **SOCIAL PROGRAM UPDATE:**

-As Karla was not present for this meeting, Don reported for her. There will be a LEO on June 30 at 1:30 p.m. at J Peppers in Kernersville. There is a private room for our group and the restaurant has audio visual equipment. Guests can be invited. At this LEO, Charles and his team will do a presentation about the Brazil Incoming Journey.

-Don reported that Karla is working on later LEOs, including one at the House of Plants.

## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE - Mary Davis**

-Mary reported that the club has 72 paid members. She reported that we have recently added 9 new members.

-Orientation for New Members or Interested Guests

The orientation will be held on June 1 from 2 - 3:30 at Ray Kiszely's home. Mary and her team will conduct the meeting. An email and/or phone call to the new members will be made to invite them.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

-Future meeting reservations at PTRC - Ray Kiszely

Ray reported that the June and July meetings have been reserved at PTRC. He will reserve the space for the August 8th meeting. Don will cancel the remaining reservation for July at the United Methodist Church in Kernersville.

-Three Council members (Barbara, Don & Patti) will be absent for the June meeting. It was decided that Ray will run the meeting and Mary will take minutes.

-Member Observer

Dr. Ann Barefield attended the Council meeting as an observer. She said that it had been an informative and interesting meeting and that she would recommend that other members attend from

time to time. The Council was very pleased that she had attended.

The Council agreed to continue to invite members as guests to the future meetings.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**