

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, AUGUST 8, 2019

Piedmont Triad Regional Council, Kernersville, NC

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Don Sylvester, Barbara North, Mary Davis, Karla Shanahan, Patti Gilmour, Ralph Cauthen, Jane Cauthen

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

The minutes of July 11, 2019 were approved by Mary Davis and seconded by Barbara North.

There was no new Treasurer's report as Ray Kiszely, the Treasurer, is away.

**JOURNEYS' UPDATES:**

2019

-Domestic Outbound - Greater Lansing, Michigan, (8/6-11, 2019)  
Don reported that 6 ambassadors are currently in Michigan. Two of the 8 ambassadors that originally planned to go had to drop out due to health issues. One of them was Judy Greene who was the journey coordinator. Woody Clinard is the acting journey coordinator for this outbound journey.

-Proposed Inbound from Northern Colorado (October, 2019)  
Ralph Cauthen reported that when he met with Ken Weaver of the Northern Colorado club at the International Conference in July, Ken said that their club will be unable to come to FFCNC this year. They have proposed that our club visit them in 2020 and that they then visit us in 2021 (mid October).

Don notified Brenda Humphrey and Judy Greene (who had volunteered to be journey coordinator and her mentor) of this recent change.

2020

-International Inbound - Sydney, Australia (May, 2020)

The dates for this inbound are May 7-13. As yet we do not have a journey coordinator. Ray contacted members who had gone on the past journey to Australia in order to find a volunteer to be journey coordinator. He indicated that he did not find anyone to agree to being the journey coordinator.

It was suggested that Judy and Brenda might be willing to fill this position.

-International Outbound - Lethbridge, Canada, (2020)

Ralph reported that he will be unable to be the journey coordinator for this journey. He also stated that as yet no dates have been decided. The Board suggested June or early July, 2020 and Ralph said he will contact the Lethbridge club and will ask if June or early July would work for their club. He will also ask their club what the minimum and maximum number of ambassadors they would accept.

-Domestic Inbound - Oklahoma City (September, 2020)

Barbara stated that Oklahoma had proposed September, 2020. As of yet our club has not responded. The Board suggested that Barbara contact Rose at the Oklahoma club and discuss the timing. We have no journey coordinator yet for this inbound journey.

-Domestic Inbound - Detroit

At this time we have heard no follow-up from Detroit and we have not contacted them. We will wait until the above journeys have been sorted out before we reconsider this prior suggestion.

-Domestic Outbound - Northern Colorado

As stated above, Northern Colorado suggested that our club visit them in 2020. The Colorado club suggested early August as there will be a Rocky Mountain Festival at that time. In addition, their club will be organizing an international themed exchange for the future and would like our club to help them practice for it.

The Board agreed that it would be good to have this journey. It was discussed that the future of this proposed journey likely will depend on the Lethbridge, Canada outbound journey and its timing. Getting

enough members to participate in these two back-to-back outbound journeys may be challenging. We may need to get input from our membership soon regarding their interest levels in these two possible journeys.

It was also noted that, as of now, we have four journeys that are tentatively planned for 2020 and no journey coordinators for any of them. Barbara may need to send out a communication to the membership about our need for people willing to consider being a journey coordinator.

2021

-Domestic Inbound - Northern Colorado (mid October, 2021)

As noted above, this has been proposed. We will follow-up with Northern Colorado once we know more about the Lethbridge and Northern Colorado outbound journeys for 2020.

Journey Related Matters

-FF World Conference

Ralph and Jane Cauthen (as ambassadors representing FFCNC) attended the Friendship Force World Conference in Boulder, Colorado, July 23-25, 2019 and came to the Board meeting to present their verbal and written report. They both indicated that it had been an inspiring conference. Their report to the Board was excellent, encouraged discussion, and in turn inspired us.

It was suggested that it would be great if they could be interviewed by the News and Record and the Winston-Salem Journal. Contacts by two Board members will be made to promote this idea.

-FFI 2021 Journey Matching Process

Don asked the Board for input on filling out the 2021 inbound journey matching form from FFI. We agreed on the input, including that the club would accept one domestic inbound and one international inbound. It was agreed that we would not plan a themed inbound program in 2021 but that we may consider one in a later year. Don will send this to FFI before the deadline.

The 2021 outbound matching input will be due by November 1. Don and Barbara will discuss sending out, some time in the next two months, an email to the membership asking for their destination preferences.

## **PLANNING FOR SECOND HALF OF THE YEAR**

-Nominating Committee for 2020 Council members

Woody had circulated an update of the nominating committee's progress. Jane Cauthen (one of three members on the committee) reported that she thinks that the committee is making good progress and hopefully will meet its goal of proposing 7 Council members and 2 "At-Large" Board members.. She asked if "At-Large" members have a vote in the Board and the answer was no, according to the By-Laws. But they will be asked for their opinions.

-Annual Meeting - (tentatively) Saturday, October 12 in the afternoon  
Barbara reported on her search for an appropriate venue for the annual meeting and it is proving to be a difficult process. Additional suggestions were given and Barbara will continue to work on it with her committee.

## **SOCIAL PROGRAM UPDATE**

-House of Plants LEO, 8/17/19

Karla Shahahan reported that there currently are scheduled to be 11 ambassadors attending (two of them are guests).

Karla asked if she should plan another LEO before the end of the year and the Board suggested waiting until January or February (given that the Annual Meeting is in October and then the holidays are always very busy for most people).

## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

-Mary Davis reported that currently we have 74 members. She also reported that the website has been updated. Barbara said that she will further update the site with photos, etc.

Mary found a new and less expensive source for the name tags. They look very good. She noticed that the new one is smaller than

the original tags and she will have this corrected when she has more printed.

### **COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

-Barbara reported that Crista Douthit will not be our webmaster after October (Barbara will see if she can stay through December). She has done an excellent job and will be missed. The Board will have to find someone with tech experience to take on this position.

In addition, Barbara noted that the Go-Daddy contract needs to be renewed.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

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