

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 14, 2019

Piedmont Triad Regional Council, Kernersville, NC

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Don Sylvester, Barbara North, Ray Kiszely, Mary Davis, Patti Gilmour, Woody Clinard, Judy Greene, Brenda Humphrey, Ann Barefield

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- Minutes of October 10, 2019 were approved by Ann Barefield and seconded by Brenda Humphrey.
- The Treasurer's Report was handed out by Ray Kiszely and discussed. It was decided that before being approved, further review by Ray was needed regarding the financials of the Annual Meeting luncheon. Ray will re-submit the report at the next Board meeting.

### **JOURNEYS' UPDATES:**

2020

- International Inbound - Sydney, Australia (May '20)  
Woody Clinard and Ann Barefield, (Journey Coordinators), reported that as yet Australia has not given us the final number of ambassadors that will come but there may be 14 people - 2 couples and 10 singles and this number may change.  
Woody and Ann reported that at the Annual Meeting a sign-up sheet for hosts for this incoming journey was filled out by members and if these hosts continue to be available in May, there would be enough hosts.  
The Australians have also asked that certain visits in the area be included (i.e. the bog garden, The International Civil Rights Museum).  
The Australians have indicated that they might prefer to have a free day after their arrival to overcome jet lag. Also, some of the ambassadors may arrive at different times that first day.  
Woody and Ann will work with the Australian club to accommodate this request.
- International Outbound - Lethbridge, Canada  
Judy Greene and Brenda Humphrey, (Journey Coordinators), reported that they have been in contact with Frank, the Journey Coordinator in

Lethbridge, and dates for the journey are still being discussed. They asked for feedback from the Board. In order to avoid conflict with the inbound journey from Australia in May and a possible outbound journey to No. Colorado in August, the Board recommended late June or early July for the outbound journey, with a preference for the last week in June. Brenda and Judy will contact the journey coordinator in Lethbridge and suggest these possible times and then report back to the Board. A list of members possibly interested in this journey was obtained at the annual meeting.

-Domestic Outbound - Northern Colorado (early Aug. '20)

Ray reported that he had had no further communication with Colorado. Judy, who knows the coordinator, offered to contact him to verify their interest and the possible timing for the journey.

Don noted that if the journey is going to take place, it will be necessary to get a journey coordinator here and also to inform our club members in order to get an indication of interest from our club.

Ann recommended enquiring about the level of strenuous activity on this journey as some of our members might have some mobility issues.

There was a new discussion about the feasibility of having two home stays back to back (i.e., one in Colorado; the other in Lethbridge). This will require further research and discussion in the future.

It was discussed that we will need to survey the interest level of our membership in this journey. It was noted that we can, if necessary, reach out to other clubs to supplement those in our club who sign up.

-Domestic Inbound - Oklahoma City (mid Oct. '21)

Barbara reported that she has received no further communication from Oklahoma City. We also do not yet have a journey coordinator for it.

2021

-Domestic Inbound - Northern Colorado (mid Oct. '21)

There has been no further information regarding this journey and therefore further discussion will be tabled until next year.

**FOLLOW-UP OF FALL ACTIVITIES:**

-Annual Meeting October 12, 2019

The Annual Meeting was held at SalemTowne, Winston-Salem.

The membership voted and approved the 7 council members for 2020. They are: Ray Kiszely, Karla Shanahan, and Mary Davis (remaining on the Board) and Woody Clinard (former Member-at-Large), Ann Barefield, Charles John, and Laura Graham. Laura Coker will be a new Member-at-Large.

In addition, the membership voted to continue to incorporate the Council leadership format as opposed to the Board leadership format.

During the meeting, Barbara North, Susan Tague, (the new website consultant), and Crista Douthit reviewed with the membership the new website that has been designed. It is very impressive and should be much more user-friendly. It has been installed and is ready to be used.

#### -FFI Outbound Journey Matching Process

Ray reported that he had submitted the form to FFI in October. The three countries suggested by the membership were: the Czech Republic, Chile, and Greece.

### **SOCIAL PROGRAM UPDATE:**

-Representing Karla and her team, Judy Greene presented the Board with an excellent list of ideas for social outings (LEO's) in North Carolina. Each Council member had been asked to review the list and to indicate their favorites. Additional ideas for outings were suggested by some of the Board members and Judy added them to the list. Karla and the team will study this feedback and report back to the Council with recommendations for 2020.

### **COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE:**

-Barbara reported that our webmaster, Susan Tague, had uploaded everything to the website. Crista and Barbara will check it and will submit any additional information pertinent to the Club. Susan's fees of \$4.00/mo. are already being paid. If further assistance from Susan is required, she can be hired on an hourly or task basis. Barbara, who will be leaving the Board at the end of the year, is willing to continue working on the transition with Susan and Crista. There is a possibility that Crista will be willing to continue to maintain the site.

## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:**

- Mary Davis reported that there are 77 members in the club.
- Brochures: Mary asked for a discussion concerning the printing of new brochures with or without her name, telephone number, and email on the brochure. Input on this issue will be asked for from Susan Tague.
- Membership list on the website: we have been assured that the list will be secure and accessed with a password. There will also be a hyperlink provided on the newsletter.
- Dues: Barbara and Mary will send out a notice to the membership about the dues, which have increased this year to \$30.00/person and \$60.00/couple. The membership dues must be paid by the end of December, 2019 so that the dues required by FFI can be paid by the Jan. 15, 2020 deadline.  
It was noted that any new member who signs up in the 4th quarter of the year is not required to pay additional dues for the following year.

## **OTHER:**

- Next Board Meeting: December 12. At this final meeting of the year, the current Council will meet with the new Council members and will assist in the transition as needed. At this meeting the new Council will determine which position each member will assume for the following year. Future Board meeting dates and locations will also be decided. Don will send out an initial notice of date, time, and location for the Dec. 12th meeting to each of the current and new Board members, At-Large member and Journey Coordinators. He intends to follow this with a second communication with more information, about the agenda and with descriptions of the responsibilities of each Council chair position.
- Audit of the Treasurer's Records: Don noted that an audit of the Treasurer's records is required to be completed by March 1, 2020. The Board felt that the new Council will be responsible for finding a member to perform this task for 2020.
- Manual for Journeys: Barbara reminded us that there is a manual on-line that gives excellent information for the organization of journeys.

## **MEETING ADJOURNED:**

Ray moved to adjourn the meeting; Mary seconded it. Meeting adjourned.