

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, December 12, 2019

Piedmont Triad Regional Council, Kernersville, NC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Sylvester, Barbara North, Ray Kiszely, Mary Davis, Patti Gilmour, Karla Shanahan, Woody Clinard, Ann Barefield, Charles John, Laura Graham

CONSENT AGENDA:

-Minutes of November 14 were approved by Ray Kiszely and seconded by Barbara North.

-Ray, the treasurer did not issue a report this month but he did hand out a yearly report including details of amounts in the checking account and the Winston-Salem Foundation.

He also reported that Mary Davis now has a debit card along with signature power to make direct deposits.

JOURNEY'S UPDATES:

2020

-International Outbound - Lethbridge, Canada (possibly the end of June)
Brenda Humphrey (Journey Coordinator) and Judy Greene (Journey Coordinator) have sent out an email re flights and timing for a possible time at the end of June to those who have expressed interest in the journey.

-Domestic Outbound - Northern Colorado - (dates not confirmed -possibly mid June or early July [if linked] or early August [if not linked])
Judy and Brenda are still considering the possibility of linking the Lethbridge and Northern Colorado trips. To be decided.

-International Inbound - Sydney Australia - May 7-13
Ann Barefield (Journey Coordinator) reported that the Sydney group will arrive on May 6 (at varying times) and have indicated that they might wish to spend that night at a nearby hotel in order to overcome jet lag.
The Council members suggested that it would be welcoming for some of the hosts and/or other members to meet the incoming ambassadors. It was also suggested that offers by the hosts could be made to invite the ambassadors to stay at their homes on the 6th. Where to stay will be decided by the Australian ambassadors themselves.

Ann reported that she has a good list of hosts. At this time, 14 Australian ambassadors are interested in coming but this number could change - up or down. Now that the hosting dates have been confirmed, Ann and Woody will contact the volunteer hosts to confirm that they are available to host during these dates.

The Journey Coordinators will work with Ray, the Treasurer, on the budget.

-Domestic Inbound - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

At this time there has not been any further contact from the OK club. Barbara said that she will follow-up with their club President by telephone.

MEMBERSHIP

Mary Davis reported that the current number of membership renewals is in the high 60's. Four members have withdrawn from the club.

Mary is continuing to try to contact the 11 other members who have not yet responded to the renewal requests. She has left voice mail messages on their telephones but as of yet she has not received responses.

Ray reminded her that we must pay FFI fees by January 15, 2020 but that he only needs to have the final numbers closer to the 15th.

SOCIAL

Karla reported that she and her committee had developed about 47 suggestions for LEO's. She attempted to get feedback from the membership as to which suggestions they prefer. However she received very few responses to her email. The Board encouraged her to try again in early '20 to get their feedback. She plans to have a LEO in January, March, May (to correspond with the international inbound journey from Sydney), August, October, November/December.

Karla is planning a LEO for January at the Hospice/Trellis organization, with lunch at a restaurant to follow. She will coordinate with Barbara to send out an announcement to the membership as soon as possible.

CURRENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL AND FUTURE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Today's Board Meeting was much shorter in time and information than usual as today the current leadership council hands over the leadership and duties to the new Board.

Don welcomed the new Council members: Ann Barefield, Laura Graham, Charles John, and Woody Clinard (former Member-at Large). Laura Coker who will be a future Member-at-Large was unable to attend today's meeting due to a family situation. Three members of the current Council will remain on the Board: Ray Kiszely, Mary Davis, Karla Shanahan and Woody Clinard, Member-at-Large, will transition to Council member.

Three current Council members will be leaving the Board/Council: Don Sylvester, Barbara North, Patti Gilmour.

With the purpose of possibly helping the new Council, Don, Barbara and Patti made a list, titled "Some Thoughts for the 2020 Council/Board". This list includes some things learned by the current Council along with some important information concerning the timing of key events and some tasks that still remain to be done. Two of the more immediate deadlines are (1) the submission of the Treasurer's input to FFI by 1/15/19 (number of members in '20, payment of FFI dues, the names of club officers) and (2) the audit of the Treasurer's records by a yet-to-be-selected club member by 3/1/19.

Patti returned the secretary club records so the next secretary can take them.

The Board then turned its attention to the question of which members of the next Council will perform which Leadership Council positions in 2020. As background information, Don had mailed to each Board member descriptions of the responsibilities/tasks of each Council position.

He noted his suggestion that most Council members consider establishing as soon as possible their own subcommittee to help them with their function.

He also encouraged the Board members to, at some time in the near future, inform each other about the time periods when each expects to be out of town in 2020.

After some discussion, it was decided by all that the new Council would continue the meeting on their own for the purpose of deciding who would fill each of the 7 positions. The three Council members who are retiring from the Council then left the meeting.

The decisions made by the new Council/Board about the allocation of the Council positions for 2020 and about the timing and location of future Board meetings will be reported in a second set of minutes issued by the next Council Coordinator or Secretary.

This ends these minutes of the first part of the 12/12/19 FFCNC Board meeting.