

“Experience different views. Discover common ground.”

Minutes of Friendship Force of Central North Carolina

Board Meeting Thursday, July 13, 2017

Present: Barbara North, Ray Kiszely, Charlotte Hamlin, Judy Greene, Crista Douthit, Marilyn John, Charles John, Martha Brown, Leroy Stokes (9)

The Board of Directors/Leadership Council of FFCNC met for its scheduled monthly meeting on Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville, NC. Leadership Coordinator Barbara North opened the meeting with a welcome and provided copies of the proposed agenda.

- **Consent Agenda Items:**

- **Minutes** of the meeting on June 1, 2017 and updates on Inbound and Outbound Journeys were sent to members prior to the meeting. Charlotte thanked members for editing suggestions for the minutes. *The Minutes for June 1st were approved.*
- **Treasurer’s Report** – Ray distributed copies of the report dated July 11, 2017 but noted that it does not include the Brazil Outbound Journey as he and Charles are meeting to reconcile the budget details. The current balance in the Wells Fargo checking account is \$11,318 and in the Winston-Salem Foundation account is \$16,313. *The Treasurer’s Report was approved.*

- **Old Business**

- **Global Exchange Inbound Update** – Judy reported that the program is well in place although last minute details may be made. She has been collecting items for gift bags for ambassadors and is seeking volunteers who are willing to attend the Welcome on August 2nd and the Farewell on August 6th to help with set up and clean up. She provided an extensive list of potential free time activities.
- **Northeast Ohio Outbound Journey Update** – Ralph Cauthen was unable to attend so Martha reported on his behalf that applications have been received so far from 10 ambassadors. Final payment is due on August 1st.
- **Brazil Outbound Journey Report** – Charles discussed the very successful Journey to Sao Luis, Brazil which was included in his Journey #13156 Board Report submitted in advance. A highlight was a visit to an impressive charity project for disadvantaged youth to which the FFCNC made a donation. He asked for suggestions for ways to continue support in the future. He noted that ambassadors especially appreciated participation of the youth from host families who served as guides and interpreters. Board members admired the handmade stone clock given by the Brazilian club and asked that Charles keep it. Charlotte will write a note of thanks to the sponsoring club when Charles provides her with contact information. In terms of finances, Charles noted that the preliminary statement does not include payments by ambassadors directly to the travel company, however adjustments will not affect the balance surplus of \$698.

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Ambassadors will receive reimbursement, less \$60 for club expenses (bank fees for wire transfers.)

- **Moscow Inbound Journey Update** (November, 2017)- Crista updated information included in Martha’s Journey Update report of July 13. She reported that a second planning committee meeting will take place immediately after this meeting to further refine a tentative list of activities. Unfortunately, no details about incoming ambassadors have been provided in response to her inquiries of the Moscow Inbound Coordinator. Day hosts and drivers are needed for ambassadors.
- **New Business**
 - **Exchanges/Journeys** - Martha
 1. **2018 Outbound assignment – August, 2018, Hsinchu, Taiwan** – As no Journey Coordinator has been identified, ***the Board voted to approve cancellation of the Taiwan Journey as a sponsoring club.*** It was recommended Martha contact Atlanta to seek out other possible NC club sponsors.
 2. **2018 Inbound Assignment – October, 2018, Bundaberg, Australia.** She is seeking a Journey Coordinator for this Journey.
 3. **2019 Inbound from Sao Luis, Brazil – *The Board approved accepting this Journey*** and Martha will seek a Coordinator. Martha noted the challenge she has experienced of recruiting Coordinators. Following discussion, it was agreed she will distribute a member survey of interest in various journey destinations and seek input on who may be willing to be a Journey Coordinator and for which destinations.
 - **Nominating Committee for 2018 Executive Council** – At the August meeting, Barbara will seek members of a Nominating Committee, noting that at the October meeting the members will need to review the current Executive Council model and its continuance. Several current Board members have indicated that they will not be continuing.
 - **Annual Membership Meeting – Tuesday evening, October 24th** · Barbara has made arrangement with the church for facilities use for the meeting, and a program needs to be developed. It was suggested that a speaker on Russia be invited.
 - **Future Meetings/Facilities Usage** - Barbara has reserved church space for Board meetings on the following Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.:

August 10, September 7, October 12, November 2, December 7.
 - **Expenditure for Website upgrade by GoDaddy** – Crista reviewed the report she had distributed. She outlined the potential benefits of an immediate Version 7 GoDaddy upgrade for a fee of **\$549.99** compared with continuing the outdated version 6 or a full website redesign. ***After discussion, the Board approved the expense for Version 7.*** Christa will oversee the makeover project.
 - **Future Agenda Item:** Definition of a Legacy Member. Marilyn and Judy agreed to discuss this and bring a recommendation to a future meeting.
- The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.