

# Friends of Niños Adelante Board Meeting Minutes

## May 14, 2015 Telephone Conference

Welcome and call to order at 9:00 CT by Steve Leighton. Steve also reported on the resignation of Board member, Beth Draving and thanked Beth for her valuable input over her five years of service.

Attending: Albright, Culligan, Ellis, Leighton, Lindblom, Romain, Shea, Tullos, Wenrich. Absent: Neal

Approval of Feb 15 minutes with following changes: Attach Treasures narrative report to financials. Attach nominations slate and election results. Motion to approve, Romain second Culligan- approved

### Old Business

Financial review: Tom Culligan presented a narrative and statements for the 12 months of our fiscal year ending March 31, 2015 with some discussion regarding the distortions caused by uneven size and timing of our contributions to Niños Adelante. The overall picture was of a very sound position. Motion to accept as presented, Tullos, second Ellis- approved

February Benefit dinner: Steve Leighton reported on the very successful Feb dinner held at the Pacifica Club Ixtapa which netted just over \$5,000. Romain is working with Pacifica to repeat the event Feb 18, 2016 using the same venue and format.

Fall fundraiser Letter: Albright circulated examples of possible letter alterations soliciting input. Very constructive suggestions keying on brevity, the use of the group photo in addition to a few individual photos, adding emphasis to key uses of funds, and simplifying the number of key uses were put forth by members of the board. Albright will consolidate suggestions and circulate a few new examples of the letter for review and input within the next 2 months.

Newsletter update: Leif Lindblom reported he has almost enough material for the next addition. Romain will solicit an article from several recent graduates. Leif has a target of completing this edition within the next two months.

Scholarship Update: Claudia Shea reported that preliminary information indicates three possible candidates who are applying to attend major universities. The target date is to have applications by July 1 and decisions by mid July.

English Classes Update: Tim Ellis reported he has been in contact with Shelagh Yarnell who has plans to return during Feb of next year and would like to resume her roll of teaching in the Sponsor taught classes. Ellis feels that he, Emily Karhoff and Shelagh will form a good team for the task. Ellis also reported that updated details from Jose and Stella regarding the ongoing classes will be available soon.

### New Business

Board Member Recruitment: Albright presented a plan to have existing board members pledge to contact over the time frame of the next year, potential members from a list of relatively new Sponsors to assess interest and compatibility. Board members are to select their contacts based on familiarity, residence proximity, probability of contact during Feb in Zihua or other. Albright has circulated a preliminary list and will circulate a refined list noting Fall Fund contributors. Board members should inform Albright of their selections and a master list will be published.

Pay increases for Maty and Jose: Leighton proposed monthly raises of 15% for both, raising Maty from 1850 to 2150 pesos and Jose from 6500 to 7500 noting this proposal was about in line with the recent peso devaluation. Ellis motioned for approval, second Albright- approved

Deferred Comp Program for Jose: Leighton introduced a potential plan. Issue tabled for review until Sept meeting.

Sponsor Update: Albright stated there has been little change since Feb. This is normally the quiet time of year.

Next meeting: September 3, 9:00 CT.

Call for meeting adjournment at 10:10, Ellis, second Culligan, approved.

Attachments:

Treasurer's narrative 5/13/15

Board Members

Please find attached a Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for the period ending March 30, 2015. This is also the end of our fiscal year.

In your review you will see that our cash position this year is lower than the comparable period last year. The difference is we have over \$25,000 more in the Zihua bank account than at the same time last year. We think we took advantage of a good exchange rate and therefore transferred additional funds. Because we are on a cash basis this also means we are showing \$25,000 more in expenses than was actually used in operation this Fiscal Year.

Also, looking at both the detail revenues and expenses you will notice an increase in the college Becas in both revenue and expenses and a decrease in Becas grade 7-12 in both revenue and expenses. The other significant change is the increase in Special Needs Gifts and expenses. This reflects a number of sponsors who are electing to cover more of the college expenses of their students.

Lastly, our fund raising dinner revenue was down this year compared to last year but our expenses were also down. The net of this year's dinner was about the same as last year.

Hope you can open these documents, if you can't please let me know.

Tom