

## **Friends of Niños Adelante Board Meeting minutes Sept 18,2012**

Meeting called to order by President Chris Rose. Attending Rose, Albright, Romain, Schaye, Lindblom & Leighton. Absent Culligan, Draving, Ellis, Moe, Yarnell

Motion to accept minutes of May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting as written by Albright, second Leighton, passed

Reviewed Balance Sheet and Income Statements for 8/31/12. Motion to accept financials as presented by Lindblom, second Schaye, passed

Review of current student and sponsor status by Albright. There are 212 sponsors and 218 students leaving us 6 sponsors short at this point. Of the 218 students there are 131 high and jr high kids and 88 college. Suggestion was made that Jose invite and include in the Breakfast program, recent college graduates. Romain to discuss with Jose.

Fall fund Raiser plans were reviewed by Chris. A letter similar to last year's appeal will be sent to our Sponsor and Donor list. The target date is late Oct. Albright will supply updated mailing list to Chris. Chris will enlist help of Moe and Neal. Suggestion to revamp upward the recommended donation scale was made by Albright and amplified by Leighton.

Lindblom reviewed plans for a fall newsletter stating there was not much material available at this point. There was an appeal to send stories, testimonials, etc for use in the newsletter. Albright to supply registration forms for Feb Breakfast and Benefit Dinner. Lindblom who has been responsible for and done such a fine job with the newsletter for what seems like forever expressed he was looking for relief.

Albright reviewed the Irene Sheahen Scholarship current year situation pointing out that although there was a selected winner there was by current guidelines only one applicant, Flor Selina. As it turns out, Flor subsequently decided, due to family issues, to attend a local college and declined the award leaving the award unclaimed for this graduating class. It was the feeling that should, Flor decide in the future to attend a major university she would be eligible to collect her award. Albright pointed out that we face a similar situation of only one possible eligible candidate in the coming graduating class and recommended a committee be appointed by Chris to review the 9.5 GPA threshold and make a recommendation to the Board at the February meeting. Chris appointed Culligan, Romain and Albright to this committee.

The topic of Paid English classroom instruction was discussed. The short term issue of funding the current classes given by Ms Stella for 24 enrolled Niños Adelante students was pointed out to be effective although it was recommended the Board be provided with some type of performance feedback of the classes on a regular basis. Albright/Romain to discuss with Jose a formula for obtaining such feedback. A motion to fund the current classes for the 4 month period of Sept thru Dec at a level of \$2000 was made by Albright, seconded by Leighton and passed. The long term view of providing paid English instruction was also discussed. Lindblom presented the view of giving preference to the students who demonstrate interest through attending the February instruction classes and can be recommended by teachers of those classes. Leighton pointed out the need to respond to requests from individual sponsors who have made arrangements with their students regarding English instruction. Albright summarized what seemed to be the three main issues surrounding paid English instruction. 1) who selects the students? 2) How much do we as a Board feel we can fund on a regular basis? 3) How do we measure performance of the program? Chris will appoint a committee to review options and advise the Board at the February meeting.

### **New Business**

The subject of a Vice President candidate was reviewed with no apparent solution. Chris will complete his 2 year term of Presidency in Feb and we have no succession plan. Steve Leighton (past President

4years removed) has stated he would be willing to have his name placed in nomination for President in Feb but our By laws seem to preclude an active Board member with more than 6 years of continuous service from serving again. To avoid this conflict a motion to accept Leighton's resignation from the board effective immediately, was made by Albright seconded by Lindblom and passed.

The nominating committee placed in nomination Gerry Tullos for Director at large for a 1 year term, seconded by Schaye and passed unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 in Ixtapa following the Student Breakfast.

A motion to adjourn by Lindblom, second by Albright, passed.