

Friends of Niños Meeting Minutes Feb 12 2017, Ixtapa Mexico

Meeting called to order by Leighton at 12:15

Present Albright, Dehart, Ellis, Leighton, Lindblom, Moe, Neal, Shea, Romain & Tullos: Absent, Wenrich & Culligan. Guests: Vinny & Margret Diglio, Ruth Johnson and Jani Moe

Welcome and introduction of perspective board members Margret Diglio and Ruth Johnson by Leighton

Approval of Sept 13 meeting minutes: Motion to approve, Moe; second Lindblom, passed

Old Business

Financial Review: Albright, presented Culligan's Dec 31 Balance sheet showing the organization to be in healthy state. Albright also reviewed the annual Budget/Forecast as of Dec 31 projecting year end (March 31, 2017) income to better expenses by \$7400. A discussion about Special Needs followed. This segment of our revenue and expense stream has grown to a significant level as a rising number of college students leave home to attend universities in other cities. It was pointed out that although additional effort is required to administer this segment, there are sound controls in place and the sum of inflows and outflows is zero.

Benefit Dinner: Romain, reported that arrangements to host 85 guests for the dinner, to be held at Pacifica Club, were in order .

Fall Fundraiser: Albright, reported the fall of 16 fundraising letter brought in \$17.5k, which is on par with last year's results. The use of a personal story in the letter was helpful . Albright solicited the board members to be on the lookout for a story to be used in the 2017 campaign.

Newsletter: Lindblom, solicited the board members for content material for a Spring/Summer edition .

Scholarships: Shea, presented a recap of the current scholarship funds and pointed out that based on GPA there is a good list of probable candidates for this year's awards. Jose will be following up over the next several months to sort out the student's individual plans.

English Classes: Ellis, covered the progress of the Sponsor Taught Classes. This year's conversational format has been enthusiastically attended by about 40 kids, many of whom are participants in Stella's ongoing English instruction class. Teachers, Shelagh Ross, Stan & Emily Karhoff, Vinny & Margret Diglio, Tim Ellis, Alan Axelrod and Mary McGlenn have divided the students into several groups based on proficiency . Ellis also reported the formal English classes by Stella, are continuing this year with about 40 Niños students. There will be 2 sessions of 5 months each at a cost of 300 pesos per month per student. Ellis also announced that he will remain involved this coming year to assist Margret Diglio, who has stepped forward to take over coordination of the English effort .

New Business

Nominations & Elections: Leighton opened nominations for directors. Albright presented the nominating committee's slate of Directors for 2017 which included Tom Lindblom, Claudia Shea, Jim Moe and Tom Wenrich. Leighton called for nominations from the floor, there being none, Tullos motioned to close nominations, second by Romain, passed. Motion to approve and elect slate as presented , Leighton, second, Tullos, passed . It should be noted that Neal and Ellis both completed their terms as Directors. Both expressed a willingness, if nominated at the May meeting , to extend their service until Feb of 2018. Nominations for Board officers were opened and Leighton was nominated for President for one year. There being no additional names, there was a motion to close nominations by Dehart, second Albright, passed. Motion to elect Leighton by Tullos, second Albright, passed.

Sponsor Update: Albright reviewed the program statistics which showed student population to be 212 as of Jan 1.

Next Meeting Date: **Tuesday May 2nd** at 9AM Central time

Motion to adjourn: Lindblom, second Shea, passed