

## Friends of Niños Adelante Board Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2015 Hotel Fontan, Zihuatanejo

Welcome and call to order 12:15 by Steve Leighton

Attending: Albright, Culligan, Ellis, Leighton, Lindblom, Neal, Romain, Schaye, Shea, Tullos. Absent: Draving, Moe, Rose, Wenrich. Also attending: Jose Bustos, Tim Lindblom

Approval of minutes of Sept 23, 2014 meeting. Motion to accept as written, Neal second Schaye, passed

### **Old Business**

Financial Review: Tom Culligan presented narrative and statements for 9 months ending Dec 31, 2014 (see attachments) explaining current status as sound. Motion to accept as presented, Shea, second Lindblom, passed

Culligan introduced motion for BOD approval of annual Federal and State filings. Motion to approve, Albright, second Tullos, passed. He also proposed we actively pursue someone to take over the job of preparing the annual filings.

Fall Fund Raiser: Albright (for Chris Rose) reported total of \$16,700 which is approximately 10% less than last year. We mailed 250 letters to sponsors and donors and received 90 responses. Twenty-two of the responses were greater than \$250.

More targeted personalized letters are one way to increase responses. It was suggested for next year to circulate our mailing list to all board members and have them identify to which donor letters they are willing to add a personal comment. It was also suggested we identify a fund or specific cause in our solicitation letter. Sample letters will be distributed to board members for suggestions and comments.

Newsletter: Leif Lindblom made a plea for material.

Scholarships: Claudia Shea reported Elidet Rodriguez was awarded the four year Gallagher scholarship for the 2013/14 school year and due in part to the unusually small graduating class, there were no applicants for the Irene Sheahen or Sanderson scholarships. A survey of 2014/15 graduates indicates a good field of possible applicants for this year. Jose offered insight into his efforts to broadcast the scholarship availability through meetings with the parents and through a conference with the kids at the May "end of year fiesta".

English Classes: Tim Ellis reported that this year Teacher Stella was continuing her instruction classes for the month of Jan and Feb to provide continuity for the kids. Tim and Karhoffs are working with Stella to provide conversational instruction at her classes.

Jose Bustos related the experience and training of the English Class "singers" who performed at both the student Breakfast and the Zihua Peace City celebration. The kids were all treated to breakfast and given a Niños shirt for their uniform at a cost of \$300. Lindblom motioned to reimburse Jose \$300, second Romain, passed.

### **New Business**

Nominations and Elections: Leighton thanked retiring board members Bob Schaye and Chris Rose for their service and contributions to Niños over the years.

Leighton presented the nominating committee slate of candidates. Ellis motioned to close nominations, second Tullos, passed. Ellis motioned to accept slate as presented, second Tullos, passed. (see attached slate)

Sponsor Update: Albright presented Sponsor and student statistics (see attached graphs) stating we are at the top end of the desired student count with a total of 236 kids. All new potential sponsors should be advised we are at the end of this school year and won't be inducting new kids until August. They should fill out and submit the application forms found on the website.

A Special Thanks: Leighton extended a note of special thanks to Gary Nelson who has been the driving force behind and the implementer of our accounting effort and the website. Thank you Gary! - unanimous

Next Meeting: May 14, 2015 at 9:00 Central time

Motion to adjourn, Albright, second Neal, passed 1:25

Attachments:

Treasurer's narrative

Board Members:

1/20/2015

I have attached a Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet for the period ending December 31, 2014. These Statements represent nine (9) months of this fiscal year and compares them to last year.

Our contributions increased by approximately \$17,000. Three factors contributed to this increase: 1. We had an increase of \$7,000 to the Irene Sheahen Fund to cover some particular college expense. 2) We had a \$9,000 increase in contributions for special needs and English classes 3) our Fall Fund and Dinner revenue was lower but that is tied to when we actually receive and post the checks. The last observation is we have more students in college programs this fiscal year than last.

On the expense side we have followed our practice of trying to take advantage of the favorable exchange rates between dollars and pesos. We sent \$40,000 on December 31, 2014. This will not only cover the Beca expenses through this fiscal year but will cover some in the next fiscal year. Because we are on a cash accounting basis, however, we show this as an expense and therefore we show a \$22,000 loss for this period. We also had an expense of \$469, approved at our last Board meeting, purchasing class room equipment and supplies. Lastly, your treasurer is posting more accurately this year than last. Last year I posted all our contributions as unrestricted. Actually the funds that we collect under Becas and Gifts are distributed to the students are restricted. Our Fall Fund and Dinner contributions are unrestricted and our used to support the office, supplies and miscellaneous expense.

The Balance Sheet shows cash of \$82,000, down \$10,000 for last year, that reflects the December payment of \$40,000. If that payment had not been made we would show an increase in Cash of \$30,000 compared to last year.

In summary, we have had a successful year so far and are in good financial shape. If you have any questions please e-mail me. See you in February.

Tom Culligan

Slate of Candidates

**Board of Directors Terms  
and slate of Nominations 1/30/15**

Position	Term Years	Current Holder	Last elected	Served on BOD since	2015 Slate	2016 Slate	2017 Slate	2018 Slate
Member at Large	1	Leif Lindblom	14	07	Leif 1 yr	Tbd 2 yr		
Member at Large	1	Claudia Shea	14	14	Claudia 2yr		Claudia 3 yr	
Member at Large	1	Tom Wenrich	14	14	Tom Wenrich 2 yr		Tom W 3 yr	
Member at Large	3	Jim Moe	14	14			Jim Moe 3 yr	
Member at Large	3	Bob Neal	14	11			Bob Neal 3 yr	
Member at Large	2	Carol Romain	13	12	Carol 3 yr			Tbd 3 Yr
Member at Large	2	Gerry Tullos	14	13		Gerry 3 yr		
Member at Large	3	Tim Ellis	14	10			Tbd 3 yr	
Member at Large	3	Bob Albright	13	04- 13		Bob 3 yr		
Member at Large	2	Steve Leighton	14	04- 13		Steve 3 yr		
Member at Large	3	Chris Rose	12	08	Open retiring			
Member at Large	3	Beth Draving	13	10		Tbd 3 yr		
Member at Large	3	Bob Schaye	12	08	Open retiring			
Member at Large	3	Tom	12	12	Tom C			Tbd

Large		Culligan				<b>3 yr</b>			3 yr
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**Board Officer Terms  
and Slate of Nominations**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Term years</b>	<b>Current holder</b>					<b>2015 Slate</b>	2016 slate	
President	1	Steve Leighton					<b>Steve Leighton 1 yr</b>	Tbd 2 yr	
Vice Pres	2	Open					<b>Tbd 1 yr</b>		
Sect	2	Bob Albright						Tbd 2 yr	
Treas	2	Tom Culligan						Tbd 2 yr	
Past Pres	2	Chris Rose						Steve Leighton	