

Friends of Niños Board Meeting Minutes May 2, 2017, Telephone Conference

Meeting called to order by Leighton at 9:00 Central

Present Albright, Dehart, Ellis, Leighton, Lindblom, Moe, Culligan, Shea, Romain & Tullos: Absent, Wenrich.

Approval of Feb 12 meeting minutes: Motion to approve, Tullos; second Romain, passed

Old Business

Financial Review: Culligan presented a Balance Sheet for March 31 and a P&L for the period July 1, 2016 through March 17, 2017, stating all were in order and that this year we will be shifting our fiscal year end from March 31 to June 30 to put it in sync with our Tax year. He also explained the division of financial duties between Albright who collects all funds enters them in the Database and deposits them with notice of deposits to Culligan, who balances the Bank account and keeps the official corporation books in Quick Books. Motion to accept Financial Statements, Ellis; second Romain, passed

Benefit Dinner: Romain, reported that Plans for next year will be a repeat of February's dinner with perhaps some revisions to the music entertainment.

Special Needs/Beca Discussion: Albright reviewed the beca peso payout history showing the peso devaluation has allowed us to increase the student payout by 47% over the past four years, outpacing the Mexican CPI by about double over the same period. Tom Lindblom discussed the potential for an ever increasing Mexican CPI. It was generally agreed to keep our sponsor beca donation at the current level but be prepared to increase next year if either the peso strengthens below the current estimate of 17.5 : 1 or the Mexican CPI increases rapidly. A breakdown of the Special Needs donations for this year and an estimate of next year's donations was also presented.

Newsletter: Lindblom, thanked all the contributors to the last newsletter and solicited the board members for content material for a Fall edition . Tom also reviewed the College informational piece recently sent to all sponsors.

Scholarships: Shea, reviewed the four probable candidates for this year's Irene Sheahen and Sanderson scholarships, reminding all that Jose is advising the students and that decisions and applications will come later in July.

English Classes: Ellis, reviewed this year's Sponsor Taught Classes. The conversational format classes were attended by about 40 kids, most of whom are participants in Stella's ongoing English instruction class. 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. Por Los Niños has paid 60,000 pesos to cover the first 5 month period. 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 May 2017 which included Ruth Johnson, Margaret Diglio, Bob Neal and Tim Ellis . Leighton called for nominations from the floor, there being none, Tullos motioned to close nominations, second by Albright, passed. Motion to approve and elect slate as presented , Leighton; second, Tullos, passed.

Nominations for Board officers were opened with Tom Lindblom being nominated for Vice President. There being no additional names, there was a motion to close nominations by Romain; second Albright, passed. Motion to elect Lindblom by Tullos; second, Albright, passed.

Sponsor Update: Albright reviewed the sponsor population to be 210 with two in waiting for August and said we can use a few more for the coming year.

Next Meeting Date: **Tuesday September 5th** at 9AM Central time

Motion to adjourn at 9:50; Romain, second, Albright, passed