

MINUTES

Families with Children from China, Oregon SW Washington Chapter

Monday, December 3, 2007

6:30 PM at Shanghai Noble

Meeting called by President, Paul Bollinger

Board Members Present Paul Bollinger (President), Myde Boles (Secretary), Joanne Agee (Treasurer)
At Large, Jill Chen, Kathryn Collins, Natalia Johnson, Susan Lopez

Board Members Absent Holly Odil, Matt Carlson, Robert McFarland

Guests Sarah Pons, Scott Benton

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Chair, Paul Bollinger

- Quorum present
- Agenda adopted
- Introduced board members and guests to prospective board member, Scott Benton

New Secretary

- MOTION to approve Susan Lopez to fill secretary role; seconded and passed

Treasurers Report by Joanna

- Due to software, three months of data is missing
- Paul will order Quicken for non-profits; Quicken for non-profits will cost around \$450.00; This version of Quicken also has membership management functionality
- Hard copy of the budget was distributed
- Total account balance is approx \$9000; \$54.00 in charitable account
- Taxes and IRS
 - IRS forgave penalty
 - Old fiscal year is January through December
 - New fiscal year is July through June
 - IRS wasn't informed of the fiscal year change
 - This year we hired a CPA to file federal and state taxes
 - Recommendation to hire independent CPA to file taxes for FCC every year
 - CPA tax expense should occur every year

Liaison Reports

Membership committee

- Membership dues will be communicated quarterly
- Cheryl will be moving off the Membership committee to co-chair Chinese New Year committee
- Katrina Anderson and Barbara Sugerma will be co-leading the Membership committee; the transition will take place in two weeks

Charitable Giving committee by Sarah Pons

- Fiscal year overview and annual report summary was presented
- Chengde orphanage wanted computer, printer and digital camera
 - Relationships have been established via e-mail
 - Can we share letters from the children to the FCC general membership?
- Wheel of Fortune helps fund the orphanage
- Money from the Wheel of Fortune and Membership has funded eye exams; eye exams cost about \$75.00 per exam
- Michael Han is comfortable with FCC working with OCDF
- Discussions about the future of the committee;

- Should the committee continue?
 - Hope to keep Wheel of Fortune to fund Chengde orphanage
- Discussed potential partnership opportunity with a church (church has been involved w/the orphanage)
- Sarah is stepping down from Charitable Giving; Sarah will help with the transition
 - Committee needs about 1-2 motivated folks
 - Sarah will communicate committee status update to the Chengde orphanage
- Potential fundraising opportunity
 - Laura Z (harpist for symphony in Eugene) would give concert; Proceeds would go to orphanage
 - Church willing to consider joint venture w/FCC
- Discuss Charitable Giving in the next board meeting to see if Matt and Holly want to be involved
- Joanna recommended that 3 people should be involved in the committee

China Sons committee

- Deferred till next meeting; Holly is in Korea

Newsletter committee

- FCC New England's China Connection Journal will be sent to FCC Oregon/SW Washington members
- FCC Seattle is also sending the China Connection Journal to their members
- Issue with newsletter format is being addressed
- After the Chinese New Year event, we need to discuss next steps for the newsletter

Community Building committee by Kathryn Collins

- Roller skating or ice skating event is being planned
 - We discussed if we should provide incentives and if we should rent a room for the group
 - Ice skating will cost around \$10.00 per person
 - Roller skating will cost \$120.00 to rent a room at Mt. Scott
 - Kathryn will inquire if the \$120.00 also covers roller skating
 - Looking to schedule the event for after Christmas; the weekend of December 30th
 - Proposal for FCC to pay the \$120.00 room fee
 - Will we utilize e-vote?

Chinese New Year committee

- The Chinese New Year event is two months away
- Cheryl is moving off the Membership committee to co-chair the Chinese New Year committee
- More information will be coming next month
- All Board members will be participating; Betsy will be contacting everyone shortly
- There was discussion about sending out an event announcement to The Oregonian, Portland Monthly and NW Kids; Jill will look into this

Cultural/Outreach/Education committee

- There is interest in creating an immersion program on the Westside
- There was discussion regarding the immersion programs in Portland

Resource Directory

- Board will be cold calling folks to solicit sponsors and ads
- December 30th is the cut off date
- Paul will send out the list to board members
- If we solicit stores, we should talk w/Betsy first; This will ensure we are operating in a coordinated manner

Old Business

Survey by Myde

- Survey is closed
- A nine page summary was forwarded to Paul and Matt for review
- The open-ended questions need to be summarized; Kathryn will summarize open-ended questions
- We can discuss the questions and final results in the February board meeting

New Business

Older kid involvement/input into the FCC

- Karen Arts? daughter is interested; Paul will follow-up with Karen's daughter
- We discussed adding an older kid to the board or setting up a teen committee
- Some possible ways they could be involved is coordinating workshop (selecting a speaker) or having a "dance event" for the teens

Website

- The board member section needs to be updated; Kathryn will contact Kris Keener to update the website
- Paul will add to the "What's New" section

George Fox Student

- For a research project, a student would like to talk with adoptive children in the age range of 7-12 years old.

Prospective board member

- Scott will follow-up with Paul to confirm interest in joining the board

Other

- Discussion around the number of adoptions in the US and the longer referral period; For the year 2007, there were 1400 fewer adoptions from China

Next meeting: January 7th

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Susan Lopez