

FAN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2017

PRESENT: Carol Huddleston (President); Cissie Alexander; Sue Behnke; Margaret Burgess; Sherry Dunn; Lin Fish; Markett Harkinson; Judi Jeske; Myrle Kozlowski; Pat Quackenbush; Sharon Schumann; Idalia Skates; Jacquie Stamates

ABSENT: Margaret Hein; Barbara Kerr; June McMillin; : Sharlene Nelson; Sharlene Wesson

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Carol Huddleston, President.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

PRESIDENT:

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes for the November 17 Board Meeting and the February 07 General Meeting was proposed and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Lin Fish announced the receipt of a thank you note from Sheryl Johnson from the Family Violence Center at Northwest Assistance Ministries. In the note, which Ms. Fish read to Board members, Ms. Johnson expressed gratitude for FAN's donation to the Center and listed several ways the money would be used to benefit clients.

Ms. Fish circulated a sign-up sheet for requesting tables and chairs for the General Meeting on March 07.

Ms. Fish confirmed the program for the upcoming General meeting on March 07, which will be a presentation (Razzle Dazzle and Flair: Maximize Your Look with Accessories) given by employees of Versona, a boutique at the Willowbrook Mall. Versona is an inexpensive boutique that targets women in their 20s and 30s but has items geared toward older women too. Presenters will discuss spring trends in accessories and how to wear them to maximize personal style.

Ms. Fish also announced the program for the April meeting. Carmalyn McCracken, a motivation speaker, will present a spiritually uplifting speech entitled "Traveling Light."

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Sherry Dunn reported a current membership of 265; 2 are returning to FAN after an absence and one member is new to FAN.

Ms. Dunn spoke with Board members regarding directory listings. Adding an option on the membership application giving members a choice as to whether they do or do not want be listed in the FAN Directory. Some Board members believed the statement was unnecessary since the member can opt to hold off paying dues until after the deadline. Some Board members believed that all members should be in the Directory, but could decide not to have their personal information listed. These members would be listed as a name only.

To avoid the confusion experienced last year when members thought they were paying dues but were in actuality paying the Spring Luncheon fee an effort will be made to assure proper signage at the luncheon and membership tables. Forms will be clearly labeled and announcements will be made at the General Meeting and in the newsletter.

TREASURER: Myrle Kozlowski reported the current Chase Bank balance as \$11,041.97.

SECRETARY: Pat Quackenbush apologized for the tardiness of the revised minutes (internet issues).

Ms. Quackenbush explained that in meeting minutes, which is a legal document, the colloquial terms such as 'passed on,' "passed away,' etc. should not be used. Deaths should be documented as the person died to make sure all people, including those from different areas of the country or from different countries, understand the intended meaning.

AUDITOR: Idalia Skates had nothing to report.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Cissie Alexander said she is receiving articles late, which makes it difficult to make the printer's deadline. She requested that if you want the same message as before, it is important to let her know so your space is not used for another article. Also, it is possible to submit articles in advance; for example, if you are leaving for vacation, you can submit the article before you leave.

A Board member suggested that it might be fun to put pictures from FAN events in the newsletter. Pictures can be sent to Ms. Alexander via email or a thumb drive. This may increase the connection among the different groups and encourage members to attend FAN events.

HISTORIAN: Sharon Schumann continues to request pictures from groups and events. She is a little concerned about the low response to picture requests since time is running out. (No official deadline announced.) Ms. Schumann requested pictures of the skit used to present the donation to the Family Violence Center.

A suggestion was made to put the pictures on a thumb drive and then show them during the Spring event. This option will be explored with the Spring event venue.

WEBSITE/FACEBOOK: Barbara Kerr absent.

EXTENDED BOARD REPORTS

ACTIVITIES: Mona Malone had nothing to report.

COOKIE EXCHANGE: Margaret Burgess had nothing to report.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY LUNCHEON: Sue Behnke reported research results of several charities as potential beneficiaries of FAN's 2017-2018 fundraiser. Charity suggestions came from FAN and Board Members.

1. Freedom Place
 - a. Provides treatment and housing for girls aged 9 to 18 years of age who are victims of human trafficking
 - b. Need to know if this is the same place as Home of Hope or the charity we supported a couple of years ago?
 - c. Need more research on this charity before a decision can be made.
2. Abandoned Animal Rescue
 - a. Provides shelter and care for abandoned animals.
 - b. A frequently suggested charity but never chosen.
3. Faithbridge— Bridging for Tomorrow
 - a. Helps specific children in the Klein Independent School District (KISD).
 - b. Currently receives money from KISD, but could still use some help financially.
 - c. Is there a conflict of interest if we support this charity since we have our meetings at Faithbridge Church?
4. Camp Hope
 - a. Provides interim housing for Wounded Warriors Memorial with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

- b. Since it focuses on an all-male population, it may not be a good fit for FAN.
 - c. More research needed to see if there is a comparable place for women.
 - d. Receives a lot of commercial support.
 - e. FAN donated to the Wounded Warriors monument a few years ago.
- 5. Samaritan's Purse
 - a. Part of the Franklin Graham Ministries
 - b. Not a local charity but is worldwide with many of the beneficiaries outside the U.S.
 - c. Provides assistance for flood victims.
 - d. Organize local people to assist victims.
 - e. Difficult to contact.

Question arose whether we should be looking for a more local, community based charity. FAN typically chooses charities that benefit women and children, but do we want to do so again? Other suggestions from Board members, as of yet un-researched, included:

- 1. Camp for All
 - a. Broad coverage area.
 - b. Get different illnesses at the camp, but all do have some type of illness.
- 2. Periwinkle Foundation
 - a. Assists children with cancer.
 - b. Named for the cancer treatment drug, Vincristine, which comes from periwinkle flowers.
 - c. Serves Texas children and our city.
- 3. Bo's Place
- 4. Ronald McDonald House
 - a. Provides housing for parents of children with cancer.
 - b. Serves a broad area.

Ms. Behnke has nomination forms available. She has placed an announcement in the March newsletter and will announce it at the meeting that we continue to look for suggestions for potential charities to support. Voting will take place at the April General Meeting.

DAY TRIPS: Sharlene Wesson absent.

DIRECTORY EDITOR: Nothing to report.

GREETERS: Sharlene Nelson absent.

OVERNIGHT TRIPS: No chair.

SOCIALS: Jacquie Stamates announced that our Spring Social will be at Transtar, which deals with traffic and flood control, on April 20. Participants will meet at Transtar, which is located on Katy Road (I 10) just outside the West Loop (I 610), at 11:00 a.m. The free tour begins shortly thereafter. There is limited parking so car pool if possible. There is no lunch provided but participants may go to lunch afterwards as separate groups. This social is limited to 30 people; 15 slots are filled.

SPRING EVENT: Ms. Dunn met with Morgan Mai At Northgate Country Club. Discussion points during that meeting:

1. Lunch will be plated and served.
2. Salads will be on the tables when we arrive, with a choice of 2 dressings.
3. The number of golf carts available to pick up participants will be doubled so there will be less wait time getting a ride to and from the building.

The committee is working hard to decrease the memory factors involved with other luncheons we have had at Northgate Country Club, such as running out of food and not having enough tables for everyone. The venue is giving us monetary breaks on some of the amenities, also. FAN will send a thank you note, and maybe flowers, for these breaks after the luncheon.

The cost of the luncheon was set at \$29 but there was discussion about whether this should be increased to \$30. Several points were raised during the discussion:

1. Would raising the cost by one dollar discourage would-be participants from attending? This may be true especially for those on a fixed income.
2. Having the cost be \$29 has a psychological benefit over the one-dollar higher cost. This is a common strategy used in marketing to make people think it is a cheaper item.
3. After a Board vote, the Spring Event will cost \$30/person.

Last year everyone was given one "raffle" ticket for a chance to win a door prize. Many participants expressed an interest in purchasing more tickets. This brought up the possibility of selling extra tickets this year. Discussion points:

1. There will be door prizes.
2. Each participant receives 1 free ticket.
3. Calling the drawing a "raffle" may be misleading. Should we refer to the drawing prizes as "door prizes" instead?
4. Margaret Burgess expressed concern that if tickets are sold, the Spring Event will become another big fund raiser.

5. Purpose of the Spring Event is “Fun and Friendship” and is supposed to be a time to get to know new people.
6. If we start collecting money at the Spring Event, it may decrease the impact of the Christmas luncheon, which is a fund raiser.

After discussion, the general consensus of the Board was to not sell extra tickets at the luncheon and to refer to the prizes as “door prizes” and not a raffle. Markett Harkinson made a motion that the Spring Event be just for fun. Passed unanimously.

Meryl Kozlowski suggested that there be something distinct printed onto the sign-up application to assure that paying members are clear about what they are paying for and not confuse it with FAN dues.

Ms. Dunn will have a meeting on March 8 at 10:00 a.m. at her home for anyone interested in working on the Spring Event. Address is: 1106 Austin Manor Court, Spring (77379).

SUNSHINE: Judi Jeske reported that no one notified her of anything new. Sharlene Wesson is home from rehab, but her husband was in the hospital again.

Sharlene Nelson’s husband had surgery yesterday.

PUBLICITY: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Huddleston suggested that we revisit last month’s suggestion about FAN forming an Angel Fund. This fund would provide money to potential FAN members who are unable to pay dues.

Markett Harkinson expressed concern that paying someone’s dues would “open a can of worms.”

1. What criteria would be used in deciding who would be funded and who would not?
2. We would be inundated with requests for funding from women who all believe they should have their dues paid.
3. We may be wiser to help on an individual basis: if someone wants to help a woman we know who needs help with dues, do so on a one-to-one basis.

Cissie Alexander made a motion to not form an Angel Fund. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Markett Harkinson announced that the Nominating Committee has a full proposed slate for next year. It will be announced in March, with a short installation in April.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: A motion to adjourn was made and seconded

DECISION: Passed unanimously at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Quackenbush
FAN Secretary 2016-2017