

Minutes of the January Meeting  
GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY CHAPTER  
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
(UNA-USA/OKC)

**MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**5:30pm, Monday, January 12, 2009**

**In Attendance:** Lowell Adams, Bill Bryant, Bob Cox, Jalal Daneshfar, Bill Dudley, Larry Eberhardt, Bob Elliott, Eric Heinze, Marie Hooper, Eunyoung Kim, Ruth Males, Firouz Mollaian, Nancy Musselman.

**Absent:** Joann Bell, Murod Mamatov (OKC Community College), Zach Messitte, Arlette Srouji, Ken Tillett, Harley Venters.<sup>1</sup>

**(1) Opening of Meeting.** We convened in our usual meeting space at the Disciples' Center, 301 NW 36<sup>th</sup>, OKC. Bob Cox presided, calling the meeting to order at about 5:30pm.

**(2) Business Reports.**

**A. Review of Minutes of December Meeting.** The minutes of the December meeting were reviewed. Eric Heinze moved to approve the minutes as presented, and Ruth Males offered a second. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

**B. Financial Report.** Firouz Mollaian was recognized, and he presented a 1-page report of financial transactions that have been made since our last meeting, summarized as follows:

Previous balance on 12-8-08	...	\$3,815.08
Income	...	140.00
Expense	...	143.40
Closing Balance on 1-12-09	...	\$3,811.68

The income was from two sources: (i) A \$100.00 contribution from Amnesty International (OKC Chapter); and (ii) A check from Bob Elliott for Adopt-A-Minefield. The contribution from Amnesty International was for the purpose of supporting the Human Rights Day program that was held on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

The only expense during the period was a payment to Bill Bryant for web hosting.

Firouz reported that he received a \$25 claim from Nancy Musselman for the reimbursement of postage expenses related to membership outreach.

A motion to accept the report and approve the claim was made by Ruth; seconded by Marie Hooper. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

**(3) Committee Reports.** Several chapter activities were reviewed in this portion of the meeting.

---

<sup>1</sup> A message of Regret was received from Zach Messitte prior to the meeting.

**A. Educational Programs / Spring Event.** The date of our Spring Meeting / Luncheon has been set. It will be Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, at Oklahoma City University.

Bob Cox reported that Zach Messitte contacted the Tulsa chapter of UNA-USA regarding a possible collaboration with them on a Spring program. The response was cordial, but several obstacles to a joint meeting were described. Therefore, our discussion proceeded to consider the design of a program without the participation of the Tulsa chapter.

The discussion at our December meeting was recalled, and it was suggested that we should attempt to create a panel of presenters from area colleges. Lowell Adams asked Bob Cox to visit with Zach about inviting student presenters from OU, SWOSU, and possibly other universities.

It was suggested that the students might prepare a short video production to complement their oral reports. The focus would be a briefing on the upcoming Model UN conference.

Lowell asked Ruth to continue to coordinate on details related to the preparations for the luncheon program / meeting.

There will be more discussion of this topic at our next meeting in February.

**B. Advocacy Report.** Eric was recognized, and he offered his appreciation to Bill Bryant for his work related to the news conference that was held at the State Capitol on January 5<sup>th</sup>. (Reference:<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/una-okc/message/48>).

**C. Membership.** Nancy was recognized, and she reported on the latest membership report from the UNA-USA national office. It reflected our chapter's status as of December, 2008. The report showed:

- 1 Renewal;
- 1 New Member (Regular);
- 1 New Member (Student).

Discussion: It appears that this membership report is not up-to-date. Nancy will contact the national office regarding concerns that were expressed in our meeting.

Discussion: We need more membership brochures. Marie will work on a chapter-specific brochure – an update.

**D. Adopt-A-Minefield.** Bob Elliott was recognized, and he suggested that our Spring Luncheon / Meeting should include a simple appeal for donations to the Adopt-A-Minefield project.

Additionally, Bob reported that he has received and reviewed a copy of the report that was prepared by our student intern last Spring. The report, 34 pages in length, offers some good, practical ideas that could be developed into a campus-based fundraising project. Bob recommended that a new leadership team needs to emerge from our chapter or from our student affiliates. "I am laying down my responsibility" for the Adopt-A-Minefield project, he said.

Bob Cox announced that he will send a copy of the student intern's report to each of our directors. It should be placed on our website, too, he said, so that it can be an available resource for any future leader(s) who wish to take ownership of the project.

On behalf of the chapter, Ruth expressed deep thanks to Bob Elliott for his past leadership on the Adopt-A-Minefield project. This thought was echoed by other directors.

**E. Nominations Committee.** Bill Dudley reported that a nominee to serve on the board of directors is in mind, but the nomination is not ripe yet.

**F. High School Essay Contest.** Jalal Daneshfar was recognized, and he reported that our chapter has received a total of 25 entries in the high school essay contest. He distributed a list of the contestants showing their hometowns. It was noted that there were quite a few entries from Tulsa – only a few from the Oklahoma City area.

A 3-judge panel was assigned to evaluate the essays: Lowell, Larry Eberhardt, and Jalal.

Discussion: There is a need to coordinate with the Tulsa chapter of UNA-USA. There should be an effort to recruit these contestants to become members of our association.

Jalal recommended that our chapter should recognize the efforts of each contestant by paying for a year's student membership in the UNA-USA. This recommendation evolved into a motion, which was offered by Marie and seconded by Bob Elliott. After a short discussion, the decision was called. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

Additionally, it was agreed that we will invite each contestant to attend our Spring Luncheon. (The usual free student tickets will be utilized for this purpose).

**G. Public Relations.** No report.

**(4) Chapter Coordination.** There was no report.

**(5) Unfinished Business.** In this portion of the meeting, several items of business were addressed.

**A. Resolutions for Consideration at the UNA-USA National Conference.** Following up on a discussion from our meeting in December, Bob asked if anyone wanted to propose a resolution for consideration at the national UNA-USA meeting in March. There was no action on this item, and no proposals were discussed.

**B. Chapter Communications.** There was a thorough discussion of plans to develop and mail out a letter and survey form to our general membership and stakeholders. Bob Cox drafted a letter which was shared with the directors via email prior to the meeting. The draft letter was received with favor by the members of the board. Marie offered to polish the letter. It was agreed that Lowell will prepare a "come back" card – a return post card – for the purpose of capturing stakeholder comments.

When the letter and survey are ready, they will be mailed to our complete mailing list, including paid members and friends of UNA-USA – a total of about 260 addresses.

**C. 2009 Budget.** Bill Bryant was recognized. He noted that a chapter budget needs to be developed for the new year. He offered to develop a draft budget to bring to the next board meeting in February. He requested help from Firouz Mollaian on this effort. Bob Cox agreed with this suggestion.

**D. Contribution to the Christian Church in Oklahoma.** A suggestion was made that we should make a formal effort to express our appreciation to the Christian Church in Oklahoma. Our chapter has benefitted from the free use of their meeting room for many years. It was noted that many other meeting locations are available at a substantial price, but the Disciples Center has always been available to us at no cost.

Consequently, after a bit more discussion, Bill Dudley moved to authorize a payment of \$300 to the Christian Church in Oklahoma in appreciation of their support of our chapter. Nancy offered a second. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

(6) **New Business.** There were no other items of business.

(7) **Adjournment.** Our next meeting will be on the second Monday in February:

**Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> – 5:30pm**  
**Disciples' Center**  
**301 NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Oklahoma City, OK**

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at about 6:50pm.

*Prepared by Bill Bryant*  
*January 17, 2009*