

Minutes of the March 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, March 9, 2009

In Attendance: Lowell Adams, Bob Cox, DeEtta Cravens, Larry Eberhardt, Bob Elliott, Eric Heinze, Marie Hooper, Ruth Males, Firouz Mollaian, Nancy Musselman.

Absent: Joann Bell, Bill Bryant, Jalal Daneshfar, Bill Dudley, Murod Mamatov, Zach Messitte, Arlette Srouji, Ken Tillett, Harley Venters.

Guests: Students from University of Oklahoma Model UN: Sara King, Jana Carpenter, Melissa Megginson..

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

(2) **Business Reports.**

A. Review of Minutes of February Meeting. The minutes of the February meeting were accepted as received. Lowell Adams moved to approve the minutes, and Bob Elliott offered a second. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

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

Previous balance on 2-0-09	---	\$3,572.54
Income	---	-0-
Expense	---	\$125
Closing Balance on 3-9-09	---	\$3447.54

The expense was for postage and envelopes requested by Lowell Adams. Firouz read a letter from the Christian Church office thanking the UN Board for the check in the amount of \$300 sent for the use of their facility. However, they declined to accept it and returned it, asking that the Board use it elsewhere in our program.

Bob Cox reported that the National Office is changing their procedures for financial matters, and in the future will send the local portion of dues as a direct deposit in the account of the local chapter. Also the local chapter will need a separate non-profit Tax ID number. Firouz will look into finding our forms for that. The financial report was accepted as presented.

(3) Committee Reports.

- A. Educational Programs/Spring Event.** The three University of Oklahoma students present at the Board meeting were introduced as representing eight students who will attend the collegiate National Model United Nations meeting in New York City on April 5-10.

Members of this group will also be part of the program at the OKC Spring Meeting, Saturday, April 18 at Oklahoma City University. The students completed their work with the high school Model United Nations program in February and are now focused on fund raising for their trip to participate at the college level. They shared the various activities they are utilizing to help raise funds and stated that any donations would be welcomed. Individual members of the Board expressed interest in helping with a donation. A motion was made by Nancy Musselman and seconded by Marie Hooper, that the UN Board donate the \$300 returned by the Christian Church office to the students for their trip. Any donations should be made out to MUN-SW.

VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

This was a special year for the student participants as they celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Model United Nations program for high school students at the University of Oklahoma. This year there were thirty high schools from Oklahoma and surrounding states.

Ruth Males distributed brochures for the Board members to look at. A few minutes were taken for proofreading and the brochures will be reprinted to reflect the corrections made.

Zach Messitte will be contacted about promoting the Spring Luncheon through publicity and press releases.

- B. Advocacy Report.** Eric had no new information to report at this time. Lowell Adams reported about the member survey he had sent concerning volunteer interests. He has had two responses at this time. One from Jim Shields volunteering to continue his work as photographer for many of our events. Kelly Kabir indicated she would be willing to work in several capacities and will be contacted.
- C. Membership.** Nancy Musselman reported that membership rules have changed according to the latest communication sent from the National UN organization. Student membership is now free of charge and local chapters will no longer be receiving their share (\$2) of the dues. They will send us a list of students we can contact to thank, but they will not be issuing refunds. As a chapter we will change our membership forms to also follow this guideline for students who wish to join the OKC UN chapter. We will also ask Bill Bryant to make changes to the website to reflect this change. Marie Hooper volunteered to help with the printing of new forms.

D. **Adopt-A-Minefield.** DeEtta Cravens, our student member from OCU, presented two proposals for projects in the coming year. She has involved her Social Justice class in planning for this project.

1. A Campus dinner at Toby Keith's at Bricktown. The restaurant would donate 10% of the proceeds for that evening to 'Adopt-A-Minefield'. She thought there should be entertainment to draw students and had contacts in mind for that. Whether they would need to be reimbursed would have to be decided later.

2. A Fashion Show at the University. A suggestion was made that it could have an International theme.

There was a discussion of the time frame, with Spring Break approaching soon, and final exams coming the first week in May. It was decided that there was not time left in this school year to complete plans to have a successful event. The planning will continue until the Fall Semester and an event will be carried out then. DeEtta will be studying in Argentina next year but will work with a committee the remaining part of this year to carry out the event in her absence.

Bob Elliott received a letter stating that this would be the last year for the United Nations Association 'Adopt-A-Minefield' project to target minefields. A new emphasis will be on cluster bombs in the future.

E. **Nominations Committee.** The name of Mohamad Daadaoui, Assistant Professor of Political Science at OCU, was put into nomination to the OKC Chapter of the United Nations Association. Marie Hooper moved that we accept him as a member of the Board and DeEtta Cravens added a second to the motion. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

F. **High School Essay Contest.** Jalal was not present but has indicated to Ruth Males that he will be in attendance at the Spring Luncheon to present the award to the winner of the essay contest. Lowell reminded the group that we need to be aware of the announcement on the National website so that our winner will know before it is made public.

No further committee reports were made.

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

(5) **Unfinished Business.** At this time several items were brought up that were not discussed earlier in the meeting. Firouz announced that his new budget is formulated. Marie made the motion that Firouz and Bill finish the new budget and sent it on to the the national organization. Vote: All Ayes; motion passed.

Permission was given by the Board for the treasurer to reimburse Ruth Males for the printing and postage needed for the Spring Luncheon brochure, in the amount of \$380.

Marie Hooper announced that the OCU Hunger Banquet will be held on March 25, at 7:00 pm in the University Center. Everyone is welcome to attend. Since the Hunger Banquet is included in the budget as a line item, she requested a check for the \$100 allowed.

(6) **New Business.** There was no New Business.

Adjournment. Our next meeting will be Monday May 11. The Spring Luncheon will be our April meeting. The meeting adjourned about 6:45 pm.

Prepared by Nancy Musselman March 10, 2009