

GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY CHAPTER –  
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
(UNA-USA/OKC)

**MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**5:30pm, Monday, September 27, 2004**  
**Jefferson Room, First Unitarian Church**

*Approved* **MINUTES: Bill Bryant, Communications Committee Chair**

**In Attendance:** Bill Bryant, Jalal Daneshfar, Bill Dudley, John Fleming, Marie Hooper, Dorothy Messenger, Firouz Mollaian, Fran Morris, Kayhan Movafagh, Nancy Musselman, and Glenn Norris.

**Student Advisors:** Jessica Hughes (OU), Payal Patel (OCU).

**Guest:** Terri Angier (Edmond Baha'i Community).

**Regrets:** Ann Cong-Tang, Hans Dookhony (UCO), Bob Elliott, Lou Jenkins, Jackie Kaneholani.

**Absent:** Tish Malloy, Carter McBride, Jerry Stephens, Harley Venters.

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by *John Fleming* at about 5:30pm. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

(1) **Business Reports.** Three reports were received in this portion of the meeting.

**A. Review of Minutes of August 2, 2004 Meeting.** Mr. Fleming noted that the minutes of the August meeting were previously distributed. He also noted that the minutes should be corrected to show that additional members of the Board had properly expressed their regrets at being unable to attend the August meeting: **Ann Cong-Tang, Marie Hooper, Lou Jenkins, Jackie Kaneholani, Firouz Mollaian, and Harley Venters.**

It was moved by *Fran Morris* and seconded by *Marie Hooper* to accept the minutes with the correction noted by Mr. Fleming. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

Thereupon, Ms. Morris moved to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by *Bill Bryant*. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

**B. Financial Report.** Mr. Fleming recognized *Firouz Mollaian* who presented a financial statement for the chapter. A balance of \$2,442.09 was reported. Mr. Mollaian commented that expenditures included \$50 disbursed for our chapter's sponsorship of the "Celebrate Diversity" event as well as \$50 disbursed to the First Unitarian Church (flower fund). Income of \$173.50 was received from the UNA-USA national office.

A motion to accept the report was offered by *Nancy Musselman*; seconded by Dr. Hooper. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

**C. Membership Report.** Mr. Fleming recognized *Dorothy Messenger* who reported that she has received a new membership list from the national office. She intends to contact a list of UNA friends and sympathizers in order to encourage them to become members. It was noted that a couple of our Directors have allowed their membership to lapse. Mr. Fleming suggested that action might be taken later in the meeting to resolve this situation.

Additionally, Mr. Fleming noted, our chapter should pay the \$10 annual dues for *Jessica Hughes* in consideration of her service to the chapter as a student advisor. (This idea seemed to have widespread support among the Directors).

**(2) Nominating Committee Report.** Mr. Fleming reported for *Lou Jenkins* that a new student advisor is being nominated for membership on the Board of Directors – *Payal Patel*, representing Oklahoma City University. Dr. Hooper moved to approve Ms. Patel as a student advisor; seconded by Ms. Musselman. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

**Special Presentation.** At this point in the meeting, Mr. Fleming recognized *Terri Angier*, a representative of the Edmond Baha’i group. Ms. Angier distributed copies of a 4-page handout describing a project on moral education that has been initiated by Dr. Farzin Davachi, an advisor to the World Health Organization. Ms. Angier asked the Directors to consider co-sponsoring a presentation of Dr. Davachi’s moral education proposal in Oklahoma City. Various aspects of this proposition were discussed, including--

- The possible timeframe of the presentation;
- Estimated cost of Dr. Davachi’s travel to Oklahoma City; and
- Other potential co-sponsors.

At the end of the discussion, Mr. Fleming indicated that the Directors will take this idea under advisement. It may be discussed further at the Directors’ next meeting. Thanks were offered to Ms. Angier for participating in the meeting and presenting this idea.

**(3) Educational Programs Committee Report.** This report was presented in three parts.

**(a) UN Day Program.** Fran Morris was recognized, and she distributed copies of a tri-fold brochure describing plans for our chapter’s observance of UN Day 2004:

Theme: “Empowering Women Around the World.”  
Event: UN Day Program – Luncheon with Speaker  
Date: Saturday, October 23, at 11:45am.  
Place: Oklahoma City University (Scarab Room).  
Speaker: Dr. Phyllis Bernard, OCU School of Law.  
Invocation: Rev. Tish Malloy.

Ms. Morris asked for volunteers to help mail out the brochures to a list of over 200 chapter members and friends. Several of our Directors readily volunteered.

Mr. Fleming distributed copies of a 1-page calendar of chapter events for the month of October. He noted that our chapter has established the Hannah Diggs Atkins award, and he asked the Directors to consider presenting the award to a deserving woman candidate at the UN Day program. (Action was taken on this proposition later in the meeting).

**(b) UN Day at the University of Oklahoma.** Jessica Hughes was recognized, and she reported on plans for celebrating UN Day at the University of Oklahoma. She distributed a 2-page handout describing the events which are planned to take place on October 26, 27, and 28. The celebration is being organized by the Society of International and Area Studies Students (SIASS) with co-sponsorship of the School of International and Area Studies, the Carl Albert Center, the Women's Outreach Center, and the International Programs Center.

Fran Morris moved to approve an expenditure of up to \$100 to support the program in Norman; seconded by *Kayhan Movafagh*. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

Other assistance for the UN Day celebration at OU was discussed. Mr. Fleming and Ms. Morris offered to provide some technical advice with respect to publicity and news releases, etc.

**(c) Other "UN Day" Events at Oklahoma City University.** Marie Hooper was recognized, and she reported that she is working with Ms. Patel to plan other events on the OCU campus to compliment our UN Day program. A motion was made to authorize the expenditure of up to \$50 to underwrite those activities; seconded by Fran Morris. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

**(4) "The People Speak."** Mr. Fleming noted that the UN Foundation is sponsoring a nation-wide series of public forums under the banner of, "The People Speak." Two events are being planned in the Oklahoma City area.

**(a) "The People Speak" at the University of Central Oklahoma.** Mr. Fleming recognized *Jalal Daneshfar* who reported that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are sponsoring a "People Speak" forum at UCO through their Oklahoma Campus Compact organization. As approved at the August 2<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting, our Chapter will serve as a forum co-sponsor; in that role, we have agreed to promote public participation. The forum will include a panel discussion featuring Dr. Don Betz. The event will take place at 6:30pm on Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at the University Center.

**(b) "The People Speak" at Oklahoma City University.** Payal Patel was recognized, and she reported plans are being made to present a student-led forum at OCU on Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, in Alvin's Café. It will be an informal, "open mike" event. Chapter members will be welcome to participate as observers.

**(5) Educational Projects.** Two events were discussed in this portion of the meeting.

(a) **“Global Oklahoma” Festival.** Mr. Fleming reviewed plans for staffing the UNA table at the Global Oklahoma festival on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unicef cards will be for sale. Trick-or-Treat boxes will be distributed.

(b) **Fall Peace Festival.** Our chapter’s possible participation in the Fall Peace Festival was considered. Mr. Fleming noted that a volunteer leader needs to be identified if we hope to sponsor a table for this annual event -- which will take place on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Fran Morris suggested that our Board should authorize the expenditure of \$40 for registration, conditional on the identification of a volunteer coordinator for the project. Mr. Daneshfar offered a motion to that effect; seconded by *Bill Dudley*. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

(6) **Education / Advocacy Shared: Adopt-A-Minefield.** Mr. Fleming recognized Bill Dudley who reported on behalf of Rev. *Bob Elliott*. Plans are being made for the annual “Night of a Thousand Dinners” – an international fund-raising event for the UNA’s minefield clearance project. Mr. Dudley commented that, tentatively, the plans for the evening include entertainment and an early evening dinner (catered).

*Glenn Norris* was asked if he perceived the need for a second dinner in the Edmond area. He replied that a single, area-wide dinner would be preferable.

Mr. Fleming suggested that the planners should be encouraged to aim for a fund-raising event that is simple and low-key.

Dr. Hooper moved to authorize the expenditure of up to \$50 in chapter funds to cover the expenses of organizing the dinner. Second: Mr. Daneshfar. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

(7) **Advocacy.** Bill Bryant reported that the UNA National office is soliciting input on the nation-wide advocacy agenda for 2005. He suggested that our chapter should survey our members and stakeholders on their opinions with respect to the proposed agenda (which includes UN Funding, UN Reform, Millennium Development Goals, and US Ratification of International Treaties).

This idea seemed to be well-received. Mr. Bryant indicated that he would bring the survey results to the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

(8) **High School Essay Contest.** Jalal Daneshfar distributed copies of a 1-page news release: “Plans for 2005 National High School Essay Contest on the United Nations.” He offered his thanks to Jessica Hughes and Nancy Musselman for their help on promoting the essay contest.

Mr. Daneshfar encouraged widespread distribution of the information in the news release. There was a short discussion of various ideas for announcing the essay contest to our general chapter membership. In the end, Ms. Musselman agreed to help draft a cover letter. Ms. Messenger agreed to help prepare a mailing. Mr. Daneshfar agreed that he will help to coordinate the mailing to the active, paid members in our chapter.

(9) **Old Business.** Several items of business, including chapter coordination issues, were discussed in this portion of the meeting.

(a) **“Celebrate Diversity.”** Mr. Fleming distributed copies of a brochure describing the Celebrate Diversity / Stop the Hate program which will be held on Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, at St. Paul’s Cathedral.

(b) **Resignation from Board of Directors.** Mr. Fleming announced that *Lou Jenkins* has informed him of her resignation from the Board of Directors. She remains an active member of the chapter.

(c) **Declaration of Support for the United Nations.** A 1-page (2-sided) handout was distributed describing a global movement of people who are declaring their public support for the United Nations. The text of the declaration was included in the handout, and it can also be found online at [www.UN-Declaration.org](http://www.UN-Declaration.org). Ms. Morris moved to endorse the statement on behalf of our chapter; seconded by Dr. Hooper. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

(d) **Releasing Inactive Board Members.** Mr. Fleming noted that the new membership list provided by the National office does not include the names of Jerry Stephens or Carter McBride – two of our Directors who have had a record of absences from Board meetings. Consequently, it was suggested that the Board should thank these gentlemen for their past support of our chapter and release them from their duties with respect to future service on the Board. Mr. Fleming recommended that we should consider recruiting new members to serve on the chapter Board of Directors.

Marie Hooper offered a motion encapsulating the recommendations just mentioned; seconded by Fran Morris. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

(10) **New Business.** Two items of new business were considered.

(a) **Chapter Website.** Bill Bryant described the work that has been completed on the chapter’s new website: [www.una-okc.org](http://www.una-okc.org). He estimated the cost of maintaining the site at approximately \$144 / year. If the Directors approve the publication of the site, he said, he will seek reimbursement on a semi-annual basis. It was moved and seconded to accept the website and authorize reimbursement to Mr. Bryant as described. VOTE: All Aye (with Mr. Bryant abstaining from the vote). Motion carried.

(b) **Hannah Diggs Atkins Award.** It was noted that our chapter established the Hannah Diggs Atkins award to recognize individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to the understanding and advancement of the United Nations’ mission. Mr. Fleming suggested that the Hannah Atkins award should be presented to Lou Jenkins in honor and recognition of her long-time support of our local chapter. He suggested that the award may be presented to Ms. Jenkins at the chapter’s UN Day program on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Marie Hooper moved to approve the recognition of Lou Jenkins as described, and she further moved to authorize the expenditure of necessary funds to produce a plaque or

trophy to be presented to Ms. Jenkins. A second was heard, and Mr. Fleming called for a vote. VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

(11) **Announcements.** Finally, it was agreed that the next meeting of the Board of Directors will be:

**Monday, November 15, 2004 -- 5:30pm**  
**First Unitarian Church**  
**600 N.W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Oklahoma City, OK**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:22pm. Mr. Fleming thanked everyone for their participation.

*Prepared by Bill Bryant*  
*October 1, 2004*