

Minutes of the September Meeting
GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY CHAPTER
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
(UNA-USA/OKC0)

Draft

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
5:30pm, Monday, September 8, 2008

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

Guest: Cecilia Cox.

Absent with Regrets: Joann Bell, Murod Mamatov (OKC Community College), Arlette Srouji, Ken Tillett, Harley Venters.

(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 5:30pm.

Nancy Musselman distributed copies of a small flyer announcing a free public lecture by Wangari Maathai at Oklahoma City University on October 1st. Ms. Maathai was the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004.

(2) Business Reports.

A. Review of Minutes of August Meeting. Bill Bryant pointed out a small error in the draft minutes of the August meeting. He noted that a couple of minor corrections need to be made in the "Financial Report" section of the minutes. The date associated with the "Closing Balance" line should be 8-11-08. The date for the "Previous Balance" should be 5-12-08. Consequently, Bob Elliott moved to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by Marie Hooper. 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 8-11-08	...	\$3,615.36
Income	...	425.00
Expense	...	58.88
Closing Balance	...	\$3,981.48

The income was derived from designated contributions for the International Day of Peace celebration. The expense was also related to the International Day of Peace – a \$58.88 reimbursement to Linda Esser for printing costs.

A motion to accept the report was made by Marie; seconded by Eric Heinze.
VOTE: All Aye; motion carried.

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

A. Educational Programs / Fall Event. Bob Cox described the plans for our observance of United Nations Day. He reported that the location of our luncheon program has been moved to the Faculty House, 601 NE 14th Street, Oklahoma City. Our featured guest, Famke Janssen, has been confirmed. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Jill Irvine. Other details of the program were reported and discussed:

- The cost of the Faculty House will be a \$100 refundable deposit plus the expense for the meals. (Bob has already put down the deposit for our chapter).
- The room we have reserved will accommodate up to 100 people.
- Regarding the cost of the meals, we'll need to estimate the number we expect to attend the luncheon; then, Faculty House requires us to pay half of the food costs by the 22nd of September.
- Bob shared written information about meal options with Ruth Males.
- By October 22nd, we'll need to give our final number to Faculty House – representing the number of reservations we have received by that date.
- A movie trailer for Ms. Famke's newest film will be shown as part of the program. The title of the film is, "Taken." It has not been released yet in the United States.

Ticket prices were discussed. We will plan to offer regular price tickets at \$20 each. Funds are available to offer free tickets to students, and there was a short discussion of how those should be distributed. Lowell Adams suggested that we should consider eliminating the \$10 student ticket price that we have offered in the past. It has proven to be confusing, he said.

Dr. Cox directed Lowell and Ruth to take charge of finalizing the details of ticket sales and reservations.

Ruth announced that we need a volunteer (or two) to cover the registration table.

B. Advocacy Report. Eric was recognized, and he reported on a recent meeting of the OU chapter of Model United Nations. A major topic of conversation was fundraising for a trip to the annual Model UN conference in New York City.

Dr. Cox suggested that we ought to consider preparing an Op-Ed for publication in a local newspaper. It could coincide with United Nations Day. Eric considered this idea, and he agreed to write an article with Bob's help.

C. Membership. Nancy reported that our newest chapter roster includes 1 additional member. She mentioned a short list of members who will (hopefully) be renewing soon. There was a brief sidebar discussion about the UNA-USA formula for distributing membership dues to local chapters. We're not sure we understand it completely.

D. Adopt-A-Minefield. No report.

E. Nominations Committee. No report.

F. High School Essay Contest. Jalal Daneshfar was recognized, and he confirmed that our chapter will be participating in the 2009 contest. Entries are currently being accepted via the UNA-USA web portal.

Dr. Cox described steps he has taken to publicize the essay contest. Bob Elliott, too. Jalal noted that he will send out postcards to some of his important contacts who will be able to help us spread the news about the contest.

G. Public Relations. No report.

(4) Chapter Coordination. There was no report.

(5) Unfinished Business. Several items of "old business" were discussed in this portion of the meeting.

A. International Day of Peace. Bill Bryant reported on plans for the "Pinwheels for Peace" celebration at the Myriad Gardens. Bob Elliott distributed copies of a newsletter from the Interfaith Alliance of Oklahoma (which carried an article about the International Day of Peace Celebration).

B. Global Oklahoma. The annual festival at Rose State College will take place on Saturday, October 4th. We'll have an information table. A sign-up sheet was circulated, and volunteers to staff the table were identified. It was confirmed that we have a good supply of "Trick or Treat for Unicef" boxes.

C. 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Tentative plans for a local observance of Human Rights Day (December 10th) were reviewed. The Oklahoma City chapter of Amnesty International will co-sponsor this event with us. Lowell, Nancy, and Bill Bryant are taking leadership on the project. Additional details will be discussed at our next meeting.

(6) New Business. Bob Cox reported that he received a follow-up communication from the national office regarding the annual report that we submitted over the summer. He will reply to the supplemental questions that were asked.

(7) Adjournment. In consideration of our UN Day luncheon on October 25th, it was decided that the next meeting of our board of directors will be on the second Monday in November:

Monday, November 10th – 5:30pm
Disciples' Center
301 NW 36th Street
Oklahoma City, OK

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at about 6:45pm.

Prepared by Bill Bryant
September 28, 2008