



## Humanists & Freethinkers of Cape Fear

### Minutes of Executive Board Meeting, March 3, 2016

**Members in Attendance:** Anne Rose, President; Jane Nelson, Vice President; Ron Cochran, Treasurer; Doc Hamm, Secretary; Nancy Bair, and Susanne Werner.

**Absent:** Al Bourbeau.

Anne called the meeting to order at 12:35 P.M.

**Approval of Minutes:** Anne asked for edits or additions to the Feb 4 minutes. There were no comments. Ron moved to approve the February meeting minutes. Jane Nelson seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ron Cochran distributed the Treasurer's Report dated March 3 2016, reflecting current checking balance of \$5319, capital account balance of \$1490, total credits of \$252 for February, and total debits of \$150 for January. Ron and Anne will go to South State Bank to update the signatures on the HFCF accounts. Ron reported that he has purchased 2014 Quicken, after researching user issues with both 2015 and 2016 versions.

Ron said that he has not yet received an invoice for Bridge Center rentals, and Nancy Bair noted that HFCF has a credit that will be applied to a future rental.

Susanne and Doc suggested that general information about HFCF finances, membership dues and fundraising efforts be added to the welcome statement at general monthly meetings, in the interest of transparency. Discussion ensued, including the past practice of "passing the plate," and general verbiage for an updated support request was agreed upon.

Anne suggested that HFCF purchase a laptop for the organizational bookkeeping software, data storage, and document backup. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that best practice would be to not have these items installed/stored solely on members' private computers. Doc suggested that the most recent operating system in a basic computer would be the wisest investment. Anne moved and Nancy Bair seconded to approve the purchase of a laptop, in the range of \$400, and it was approved unanimously.

Ron asked if he should continue to bring the HFCF cash box to general meetings; it was noted that sales of t-shirts and other items is ongoing.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Susanne Werner reported that HFCF had one membership renewal and 3 new memberships in February, bringing the total paid memberships to 57. She said there are 3 "friends," 21 lapsed members and 19 archived members. Susanne said that she has updated the membership mailing list in MailChimp.

**Programs:** Nancy Bair reviewed upcoming speakers for General Membership meetings, and said that the committee will review the procedure of setting honorariums in order to assist with setting a programs budget. She noted that the May program, with Chris Wilson, will be held at a private home and that attendance would be both capped and controlled to give preference to paid members, rather than advertising it to the general public on Meetup.com and in the media. Anne and Ron suggested that the May meeting be promoted as a "membership perk."

Nancy and Susanne reported on the April general membership meeting, which will be a panel discussing HFCF volunteerism opportunities.

Nancy announced that Mike Werner is assuming the role of Program Committee chair and that she will remain on the committee as liaison to the board. Mike Jordan is also on the committee.

**Social Action** – Susanne reviewed the Social Action events currently on the calendar. Susanne and Jane suggested that the Mother Hubbard's Cupboard drive for spaghetti sauce be continued, and it was agreed that this effort would be concentrated on the general monthly meetings rather than at all events and programs. Anne will add it to the program announcements on Meetup.com.

Susanne said that the WHQR Spring fundraising solicitation had arrived, and that the 2017 Day of Reason day sponsorship was available. Discussion ensued. Anne moved and Doc Hamm seconded to approve the \$180 sponsorship for 2017. The motion was unanimously approved.

Susanne said that the Social Action committee will be meeting on March 16, noon, at the Hannah Block Building.

**Social and Fun** – Anne Rose said that she is regularly updating the Meetup.com calendar with events that were planned by the committee in January. She noted that attendance at social functions has been fantastic, with 20+ people in attendance at the Happy Hour events, and at the International Dinners. Members suggested Poe’s Tavern and Slainte Irish Pub for future events.

**Publicity** – Nancy Bair and Susanne Werner offered information about WLTT radio show “Reasonable Dialogue” and there was discussion about whether and how to partner with the program. Anne asked for items to be included in the March newsletter to be emailed to her before Saturday, March 05, 2016. She said that the e-newsletter will go out the weekend following each board meeting, and that she and Nancy will edit, sending a preview to the board, before emailing the paid members.

**Science Grant Program:**

Anne reviewed the HFCE 2016 High School Science Grant RFP. Susanne suggested changes to the second paragraph under “HFCE Purpose,” which were reviewed and discussed. It was moved by Nancy Bair and seconded by Doc Hamm to approve the grant RFP with changes as noted. Ron asked who will review the grant applications, and it was agreed that the board will be given the opportunity to participate in application review, along with the committee that includes Jay Greenblatt and Monika Demecs. Anne reiterated that funds will be awarded by vote of the HFCE board. Susanne suggested that the hard copy grant applications be scanned for ease of review.

Anne said that she and Nancy will promote the grant opportunity via local media, social networks and the HFCE website.

**New Business:** Susanne Werner suggested a family walk or run to raise monies for the HFCE grants; the Social Action committee will discuss the idea. Nancy Bair suggested a silent auction for fundraising.

Jane Nelson reported that the new HFCE t-shirts have been delivered, which includes women’s shirts, and that they will be available for purchase at the Sunday general meeting.

Inventory and reprints of HFCE promotional materials – business cards, stickers, etc – was discussed, so that adequate supplies are on hand for the upcoming spring and summer events. Jane Nelson volunteered to review and re-order items as needed. Anne moved and Doc seconded to approve the expense of printing promotional items as needed. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 7, 2016.

Anne adjourned the meeting at 1:45 P.M.

Submitted by,

**Doc Hamm, Secretary**