



Humanists & Freethinkers of Cape Fear

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting, January 8, 2015

Members in Attendance: Elaine Warren, President; Audrey Santangelo, Vice President; Ron Cochran, Treasurer; Chris Knigge, Secretary; Nancy Bair, Jane Nelson, Anne Rose, Mike Werner and Susanne Werner.

Member Absent: Jamie Pond.

Elaine called the meeting to order at 1:17 P.M.

Approval of Minutes: Elaine asked for approval of the minutes. Ron made the motion to approve and Jane seconded it. The December minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was presented by Ron, distributed to members and is attached. The current remains \$5287 and there is \$1488 in the capital savings account. Ron announced that the new bank account has been processed and opened at Alliance Credit Union with locations at 7th Street and Racine Drive and our position at the Azalea Festival has been secured.

Discussion followed about the proposed group boat trip. The cost is thought to be approximately \$900 for the two hour trip and lecture up the Cape Fear River. It was suggested by Mike that we would subsidize the per person cost by about 50%. The anticipated cost to members would therefore be about \$25 per person, assuming we would get about 20 or more passengers to commit.

Mike suggested that we promote the boat trip at the next meeting to see if we can secure enough interest. Mike and Jane will verify the cost and also look into the possibility of a one hour trip.

Chris observed that Encore did not publish our meeting in the current issue. Nancy submitted the information on December 18th. Elaine noted that we should mention that the YWCA rents us the Bridge Center.

It was determined to hold the next Meet & Greet in South Port at the Irish Pub on February 19th.

The next Meet & Greet will be combined with the March Happy Hour and will be held on March 10th at McAllister's on College.

Elaine has applied for us to have a table at the Conscious Fair but has not received confirmation at this time. It will be held at CFCC downtown on the fifth floor on February 7th. A display appropriate to the theme of the occasion will need to be prepared. And it was suggested that handouts will need to be made available.

Jane informed us that we have missed the deadline for entering the MLK Parade. If we enter next year a \$75 fee will need to be paid to the Celebration & Parade Committee. The NAACP sponsors the event and receives the money.

Elaine suggested that we plan a family/young person activity. Discussion about possibilities followed. An Earth Day activity will be devised as science based and educational. An additional possibility may be a sponsored field trip to the Serpentarium. Nancy will look into this.

Our annual picnic in the park is scheduled to be held on September 12th. Audrey will reserve the location and Elaine will plan to bring game equipment.

The next monthly breakfast will be on February 1st at Tropical Smoothies Café at 9:00 A.M.

A lengthy discussion followed about Meet up's new policy concerning collecting dues from members in all of its groups. Several suggestions were made about how to deal with the new imposed program; among them maintaining our own spreadsheet of members and dues collected with all dues due at the beginning of the year, setting up a "Contributions" system, charging just a nominal amount and relying on spontaneous contributions and other variations to tailor the rules to our advantage. No decision was made and Ann will keep checking on this.

The next Freethought Flix dates were set as follows: January 28th, February 25th and March 25th.

As we have decided to end the highway cleanup volunteer activity, there was discussion about finding alternatives. A few suggestions were made. The interest in volunteering at Mother Hubbard's seems to also be waning. Susanne and others suggested that we create a call list to develop a group of people who will be relied on to participate on our fifth Tuesday commitments. Ann asked if we have any list serve of the active members. We don't currently have this. Circulating a clip board for sign-ups was another suggestion.

Susanne mentioned that she is attending a leadership class and will try to bring back ideas for the group.

Ann made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Nancy seconded it. Elaine adjourned the meeting at 2:51 P.M.

Submitted by,

Chris Knigge