



Humanists & Freethinkers of Cape Fear
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting, December 3, 2015

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

Guest in Attendance: Doc Hamm, board member-elect.

Call to Order: Mike Werner called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Mike Werner invited discussion, edits or corrections to the Board Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2015; Nancy Bair moved to the Board Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2015. Jane Nelson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Mike Werner asked for comments or a motion to approve the minutes from the General Membership Annual Meeting of November 8, 2015. Ron Cochran so moved, Nancy Bair seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ron Cochran reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Membership dues and proceeds from the Attractions books were noted, as were contributions in excess of membership dues. Jane Nelson said that HFCF should consider purchasing logo labels, stickers and notecards. Ron said that he had signed HFCF for the 2016 Azalea Fest and that he was following up on the insurance requirement, available through the Azalea Fest committee.

Nancy Bair and Mike Werner discussed honorarium for speakers, noting that the maximum has generally been \$150.

Anne Rose moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Jane Nelson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Anne Rose suggested that the treasurer work on an annual budget for 2016. Ron and Mike agreed to collaborate on this.

Mike Werner told members that he was happy with the pricing of the HFCF banners, which were displayed prior to the meeting.

Membership Committee: Susanne Werner reported that HFCF has 76 members paid through 2015 and 46 members paid through 2016. She discussed coordinating signings for the general membership meetings to facilitate payment of dues. Suzanne was thanked for updating the membership list, which was previously in disarray.

Committee Reports:

Social Activities Committee: Mike Werner reviewed the December social schedule, to include the Solstice Dinner on December 20th. Anne Rose reported that 20 people have RSVP'd for the dinner, and that there are 10 spaces open. Anne said that social activities have been posted through January, including an open invitation for Christmas Day. She said the Social Activities committee will meet after the holidays.

Grant Program: Mike Werner invited Anne Rose and Jane Nelson to report on the School Grant Program. Anne distributed the draft RFP for the proposed "**Humanists & Freethinkers of Cape Fear High School Science Grant,**" which was prepared by a committee consisting of Anne Rose, Jane Nelson and Jay Greenblatt. The plan to make grants available to New Hanover County high schools for science-related projects was discussed. Jane reported that she had talked with a representative of the school board, and that HFCF was welcome to develop a grant and distribute to teachers. Jane noted that each high school has a process in place to facilitate teachers' applying for grant monies. Discussion ensued.

Anne Rose moved that HFCF create a designated fund for grants, with monies to be allocated at a later date. Jane Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mike Werner reviewed the speakers for the General Membership meetings of January, February and March. Suzanne Werner suggested that the February meeting included a full potluck dinner to celebrate Darwin Day.

Social Action Committee: Susanne Werner said that the committee was meeting on Monday December 7, and that the meeting was posted on Meetup.com in order to grow participation.

Publicity Committee/Programs Committee: Nancy Bair said that public relations efforts have been successful in getting listings and coverage of events. Anne said that press releases are disseminated for monthly speaker-events.

New Business: Mike Werner opened a discussion on the officer elections for the HFCF Board, scheduled for the first order of business at the January board meeting. Mike said that he will call the meeting to order, supervise the election and then turn the meeting over to the newly elected officers. Suzanne Werner voiced an objection to the proposed process, stating that the board officers should be elected at the December board meeting so that they are prepared to take office on January 1, when the terms commence for newly elected board members and terms renew for continuing board members. Discussion ensued. It was agreed to follow the protocol as outlined by Mike Werner. Suggestions board members to assume roles as new officers were made, in anticipation of the January meeting. Two officer scenarios were floated, with agreement from the board that either was workable and would make good use of the members' talents. Mike Werner agreed to speak with Al Bourbeau about board responsibilities and opportunities to contribute.

Suzanne Werner reiterated that the profit from the Attractions Books is \$280, and that there are 3 books still available for sale.

Michael Werner adjourned the meeting at 2:10 pm.

Submitted by,

Anne Rose, Secretary

Upcoming Board Meetings:

Jan 7 – Main Library, Wilmington Room | Officer elections