



Humanists & Freethinkers of Cape Fear

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting, July 9, 2015

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

Members Absent: Elaine Warren, President; Audrey Santangelo, Vice President; Chris Knigge, Secretary; Jamie Pond.

Call to Order: Ron Cochran called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Anne Rose moved to approve the May 5 2015 meeting minutes after striking the paragraphs under “Call to Order,” beginning with “Elaine read ...” and ending at “... in the future,” and replacing that text with “Elaine read a personal statement.” Mike Werner seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Ron Cochran presented the Treasurer’s Report which reflects a July 9 2015 checking balance of \$4109, capital account balance of \$1488, credits of \$43 and debits of \$286.

Discussion ensued regarding Bridge Center billing, Post Office box costs and Flea Market fundraising revenue. It was generally agreed that the Flea Market does not produce enough revenue to merit the time and effort required.

Anne Rose moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Susanne Werner seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Social Committee Report: Anne Rose recapped the May 31 2015 Social Committee meeting. Anne reported that the social events, including Happy Hours and International dinners have been exceptionally well attended. Upcoming social events have been added to the Meetup.com page. Jean Dunne is preparing a schedule of special one-off type events, like bowling, miniature golf and museum visits, to commence in September. Discussion ensued. It was suggested and agreed that Anne will maintain the Meetup.com page, with direction from the Board.

Social Action Committee Report: Ron Cochran reported that the committee met on July 6 2015. He said that the committee will concentrate on public relations-friendly events that promote HFCE’s involvement in the community.

Ron introduced a proposed initiative to grant funds to an area teacher. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that such an award should go to any teacher/subject, not specifically science. The committee will look at similar grant programs from local nonprofits.

Ron announced that the committee is evaluating a schedule change for Mother Hubbard volunteering and will update the Board when this is finalized. Susanne Werner talked about the Mother Hubbard “Item of the Month” initiative and moved that HFCE begin participating in this initiative on a monthly basis, and that it encourage members to bring a jar of spaghetti sauce – the item for September – to all HFCE September social events for donation to Mother Hubbard. Nancy Bair seconded the motion. Anne will include this verbiage in September social event descriptions on Meetup.com. Susanne noted that Jane Nelson volunteered to take on the open position of HFCE team coordinator.

Mike Werner discussed the Martin Luther King Day parade. He will research pricing and details. Discussion ensued.

Susanne Werner announced that she and the committee, including Amber Taggart, are working on a Community Action Service Group that would be charged with researching and organizing one-off events and social/community activities that would appeal to HFCE members.

Susanne Werner said that the WHQR sponsorship has been applied for.

Publicity Committee Report: Nancy Bair reported that she continually seeks publicity for HFCE events. The press coverage for the Monday Night Discussion Group “Truth” – particularly in the June 20 2015 Star News Community page under News and Notes – was complimented.

Bylaws Committee: Susanne Werner distributed copies of the *Draft Revision 4 (6/26/15) Bylaws of the Humanists & Freethinkers of Cape Fear*, which was emailed to Board members for review with the meeting agenda. All changes to the current Bylaws were indicated on the *Draft Revision 4* with yellow or green highlights; it was suggested and agreed that the Board would review the entire document and entertain one motion to accept the proposed changes following discussion and any edits to the content.

Susanne led the board in an item-by-item review and discussion of the proposed changes. The board suggested edits to the *Draft Revision 4* to include:

1. **IV. GOVERNMENT SECTION 1. Board:** add “*for a total of 7 board members*”
2. **SECTION 2. Officers:** add “... HFCF *financial accounts ...*” and edit the final sentence to read “*A Board member or voting member will be assigned to conduct an annual review of the finances at the end of the fiscal year.*”
3. **VII. AMENDMENTS: edit this section to read** “ *Changes to these Bylaws must be approved by a majority of the Board and all Board members are to be provided with a copy of the proposed changes at least one month (1) prior to the meeting at which the vote is to take place.*”
4. **VIII. DISSOLUTION:** add at the end of the paragraph ... given to The American Humanist Association ... “*and/or another community-based non-profit organization approved by those in attendance at the dissolution meeting.*”

Susanne Werner moved to accept the *Draft Revision 4 (6/26/15) Bylaws of the Humanists & Freethinkers of Cape Fear* including the edits 1 through 4 listed above, to be distributed by email for final reading and ratification with a Board vote by email on August 10, 2015. Anne seconded. The motion was unanimously approved: Ron Cochran, yes; Nancy Bair, yes; Susanne Werner, yes; Anne Rose, yes; Jane Nelson, yes. Mike Werner was absent for the vote and voted in favor upon his return to the meeting.

Other Committee Reports: Susanne Werner suggested that the Membership Committee, which is headed by Audrey Santangelo, should meet to review and update the membership list prior to the September general meeting. She noted that nametags need to be made current and an accurate sign in sheet maintained. It was agreed that a Membership Committee meeting should be called in August. Susanne asked for recommendations of committee members. Susanne will follow up.

Susanne moved that the Board appoint a Nominating Committee to identify prospective Board members, with Mike Werner to chair the committee. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Discussion ensued; suggested for the committee were Harold Hodges, Bobi Alper and Mary Ray.

The Board reviewed current Board member terms, discussed the impact term limits will have on Board membership and outlined general strategies for Board recruitment.

Anne Rose agreed to reach out to the Mike and Shirl Bishop on behalf of HFCF and the Board with offers of assistance.

The Board discussed procedures for moving forward upon Elaine Warren’s and Chris Knigge’s verbal resignations from the HFCF Board on July 9, 2015.

The Board convened in Executive Session for the discussion of personnel issues. The Board reconvened in General Session.

Upcoming Board Meetings:	August 13, 2015	12:30pm	Main Library, room tba
	September 17, 2015	12:30 pm	Main Library, room tba

The earlier motion calling for a Bylaws ratification vote by email on August 10th was revised, with unanimous approval of the Board, to call for a ratification vote at the August 13 2015 Board Meeting.

Ron Cochran adjourned the meeting at 2:34.

Submitted by,

Anne Rose, Secretary pro tem