



Alliance Française
Tucson, AZ

**Minutes for AFT Board Meeting
April 19, 2016 at 6pm**

In attendance from the AFT Staff & 2016 Board:

Magali Bergolla, Executive Director
Mary Carryer, Member at Large (M.A.L.)
Christine Deymier, M.A.L.
Rosann Gonzalez, Treasurer
Dianne Janis, Secretary
Steve Jeton, M.A.L.
Rebecca McSwain, President
Raymonde Zlotnikoff, Vice President

Rebecca called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm.

Attendance was taken and all board members were present.

Minutes

Minutes from the March meeting were reviewed, corrected, and approved.

Financials

The March financials were reviewed. Rosann presented a comprehensive overview of the AFT's financial picture. It appears that the monthly income we must bring in and maintain is \$2,455. Because the summer months are slower (fewer classes and workshops), concerns were expressed about the organization's fiscal health during those months.

Our lease is due for renewal; it expires on July 5 and we must sign by May 5th. The charge for utilities may be the only factor that could change our rental rate. Mary made the motion to approve the lease and with all in agreement that Magali can sign

it. Steve seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Rebecca agreed to make the call to the Junior League that we want to continue our lease.

Executive Director's Administrative Report

We have had good attendance at our recent events:

Potluck:	15 attendees
Film:	21 attendees
Lecture:	35 attendees (which netted \$30 for AFT)

It was agreed that ALL handout materials distributed at lectures must have the AFT logo and contact information included.

Outdoor lighting is poor on the patio and the back parking lot. Is the JL willing/able to put additional lighting there? There may be some homeless people using the water and electrical connection on the patio. It was agreed that the police/Pima County Sheriff should be asked for their advice on how to eliminate this problem.

The "Paris" presentation had numerous technical difficulties with the SmartBoard. To help the teachers and future presenters, Magali will conduct a "How to Use the SmartBoard" presentation. First we will evaluate if a tutorial will be enough to solve the problems that teachers are having with the SmartBoard. We will look into purchasing a PowerPoint software package if the SmartBoard difficulties are not overcome.

Executive Director's Education and Membership Report

Magali reported that there are 5 classes right now which includes one for Literature discussion. We have 30 students which is the same number as we had in March.

Magali announced we have 135 members. It would be useful to know how many of these people are in Tucson year-round.

Event Planning

The upcoming luncheon has created a lot of interest. So far, there are 25 attendees signed up for the event.

It was proposed that we could launch a cultural events series. The first of these could be an event featuring Jasmine, an accomplished pianist who has volunteered to give a presentation on a French composer.

May 14th a workshop will be held on "Idioms."

May 19th there will be a potluck.

May 20 there will be a film.

President's Remarks

A year-round calendar was displayed that includes all of AFT's proposed activities each month. This is an invaluable tool for planning the board workload and need for volunteers. Due to upcoming elections it was agreed that a nominating committee needs to be formed soon. The nominating committee should be comprised of 3 people who are not AFT board members. The two people who were suggested were Octavio and Nina, both former AFT board members, who might be willing to serve on the nominating committee. Magali will send an eblast regarding this issue.

It was agreed to try Cata Vino as a possible venue for AFT events.

Mary reported that the window of time to reserve a table at the Friends of Books Festival is between September 1 - 15. The price is \$415. Dianne made a motion that the AFT sign up for FOB and not participate in the "Tucson Meet Yourself" event this year. Rosann seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

It was proposed that we hold a workshop for French teachers as a new outreach effort. The schools in Tucson do not follow the same calendar/schedule. A possible timeframe to conduct this workshop is after Labor Day. Suggested fee would be \$10 per person. Magali said she would contact her list of teachers and we would add this to the September calendar as a tentative event. It was agreed to invite French teachers to the Idiom Workshop.

Adjournment

Rosann moved to adjourn the meeting with Raymonde seconding the motion. Rebecca adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Dianne Janis, AFT Secretary.

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