



**Minutes for AFT Board Meeting
August 23, 2016 at 6pm**

In attendance from the AFT Staff & 2016 Board:

Magali Bergolla, Executive Director
Christine Deymier, M.A.L.
Dianne Janis, Secretary
Steve Jeton, M.A.L.
Rebecca McSwain, President
Raymonde Zlotnikoff, Vice President

Guests: Jack Ryniec
 Liz Guillen

Rebecca called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Attendance was taken and the guests were acknowledged.

Minutes

Minutes from the May 17, 2016 meeting need to be located and reviewed for comments, corrections. Rebecca will forward the minutes to the board.

Financials

The July financials were reviewed. Without Rosann present to expand on the report, a cursory review was performed with particular discussion regarding the additional donation of \$8,000+ that the AFT received from the Estate of Donald Witt. Steve moved to accept the financials and Christine seconded the motion.

NOTE: for a future meeting, Rebecca would like to discuss the AFT's tax status and if there are any concerns about compliance, etc.

Executive Director's Administrative Report

A nominating committee needs to be formed to prepare for the annual meeting and upcoming board election. To start that effort, Rebecca drafted a letter asking for volunteers. This will be distributed to all membership. The board agreed that the letter should omit the reference to how many hours a volunteer could expect to commit to this effort. Christine will translate the letter into French for additional distribution. It was suggested that we review the bylaws regarding board participation in the nominating committee process.

The site issues with the Komen folks continue but should be resolved soon. According to Magali, the white Komen cabinets will have to be moved around as their current placement (which can block the AFT's hallway access) is considered a fire hazard. It was suggested that AFT again ask the JL about fixing the driveway. Rebecca is going to suggest a twice per year face-to-face meeting with the JL people so that these types of issues can be addressed personally.

AF Delegation has an annual meeting at the end of October. This is designed for Executive Directors and Presidents of chapters to network and exchange ideas. It was agreed that Magali should attend this year's meeting which will be held in Minneapolis.

Advertising efforts have been launched which include printing and displaying small flags on stakes which will be displayed around the property, using the A-frame sign when Magali is on the premises, running a color ad in the September Desert Leaf magazine, and purchasing radio announcements on KXCI radio.

All of these efforts will help increase the AFT's visibility and hopefully attract new members.

Executive Director's Education and Membership Report

Two classes have 12 students enrolled - 7 of whom are new to AFT. All 101 students want to continue. The new session will start on September 12 and run through October 7.

Finding new teachers is an issue that requires additional discussion. It was agreed that a.s.a.p. Raymonde will speak to Amy, Christine will speak to Clara and Alexandra, and Magali will speak to Charlotte to determine if any of these women are interested in teaching at AFT.

There will be no workshop in September. However it was agreed that during October, November, and December the goal is to have two workshops and two presentations.

Raymonde will coordinate a presentation on woodworking and Christine will do a presentation on Provence. Steve said that he would consider doing one, perhaps as a joint effort with Jean-George Dehasse. Ideally, the dates for these presentations will be fixed by September 15 so that Magali can promote them.

Event Planning

Upcoming event at CataVinos is to be held on November 17 if the space is available. Rebecca will call to reserve the space.

Potlucks will continue and Magali would like to publish a full schedule of upcoming potlucks on the website.

Raymonde brought up the importance of securing proper permits and/or insurance related to serving wine at our events. Raymonde will speak to her daughter in law about researching this for AFT and Magali will speak to AFT's lawyer, Larry Hecker.

The annual meeting will be scheduled on or around December 12, similar to last year's schedule.

The Festival of Books booth must be reserved on September 1 and Christine, Rebecca, and Magali will coordinate all of the information that is needed to complete the application online. A credit card is required so Christine and/or Rebecca need to assist with this process. This awkward situation makes it clear that Magali needs her own AFT credit card. It was agreed that Rosann can investigate getting a card for Magali to use. Please note that there is a chance that we will NOT be granted booth space due to the overwhelming number of organizations that want space.

Rebecca asked that the board think about an adjustment in membership rates for the summer of 2017. More discussion is needed.

Adjournment

Raymonde moved to adjourn the meeting with Steve seconding the motion. Rebecca adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Dianne Janis, AFT Secretary.

NOTE: The following items were in the April minutes and remain here as a "To Do" list.

- The "Paris" presentation had numerous technical difficulties with the SmartBoard. To help the teachers and future presenters, Magali will work with Liz on 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.
- Magali announced we have 135 members. **It would be useful to know how many of these people are in Tucson year-round.**

- 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.
- 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.