

UNA-USA Pomona Valley Chapter
Minutes Annual Meeting Sunday, January 22, 2012

Katie Gerecke welcomed the 40 members and guests, inviting them to share in the pot luck dinner.

Business Meeting:

Sustainable Claremont: - Katie recognized Freeman Allen and asked everyone to take the Sustainable Claremont flyers with the information about the group's February 6th meeting on the Keystone Pipeline.

Chapter Review of 2011: Katie reviewed the Chapter's many 2011 accomplishments, actions and activities. Our organization, the United Nations Association-USA, is now a Program within the United Nations Foundation. This change necessitated a revision of our by-laws. Our chapter has mentored a high school group that has raised money for a children's program. Although the national UNA-USA no longer promotes a high school essay contest, our local chapter continues this activity. We coordinated with Sustainable Claremont and the League of Women Voters to provide the October Sustainability display in our community library. We also coordinated with International Place in recognizing United Nations Day. We held regular monthly meetings with speakers along with three board meetings. Letters to officials and editor were written; the most recent on funding UNESCO. Our chapter signed the death penalty resolution. We lost our esteemed Richard Harris.

Election of Officers and Board: Art Sutton presented the proposed Officers and Board Members for the 2012 year. The members unanimously approved them. They are: Katie Gerecke, President; Art Sutton, Vice-President; Carolee Monroe, Secretary; Bob Wallace, Treasurer. The 2012-13 Directors are: Ardishir Rashidi, Gloria Reynolds, Barbara Riley, Art Sutton, Lois Thompson and Shirley Williams.

Approval of Budget and Financial Report: Bob Wallace submitted the 2012 Annual Budget with estimated income and expenses at \$2754. It was unanimously approved.

Action Plan – National Advocacy Issues: Our chapter theme for the coming year is "Gender Equity and Empowering Women and Girls". The National advocacy issues are: United Nations funding, human rights, international treaties and the millennium development goals. We will be revising our Action Plan to relate more closely to these advocacy issues.

UNA-USA Essay Contest Recognition: Mel Boynton awarded prizes to this year's contest winners: Jahnvi Curlin, 1st place; Paul Hurley, 2nd place and Michaela Moss, 3rd place. The topic was a letter to President Obama regarding "The United Nation's role in response to the Arab Spring". The University Club of Claremont funded the awards.

Program: Katie introduced Kay Buck, CEO of the Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST), who spoke on "The Global Issues of Human Trafficking". Ms. Buck described the organization's two divisions and the rising nature of the problem. Her presentation was accompanied by a video of women rescued from slavery here in America. The program elicited many questions from those in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolee Monroe