

Minutes of the Pomona Valley Chapter UNA-USA Board Meeting
April 15, 2017, 3:00 PM 1402 Ashford Avenue
Claremont California

In Attendance: Bertil Lindblad, Chair; Opoku Acheampong; Marjory Bray; Mel Boynton; Leena Khan; Claudia Lennear; Charlene Martin; Katie Gerecke; Dan Petersen; Art Sutton; Bob Wallace; Sylvia Whitlock.

Bertil Lindblad opened the meeting

- Will travel with Mel to Washington, DC for UN Assoc. National Conference in June.

Charlene

- Minutes from the February 11, 2017 meeting were approved by all members in attendance.
- Mel will follow up on UN National Affiliation Agreement reported in minutes.

Treasurer's Report: presented by Marjory Bray

Balance: \$3,814.79

Deposits: + \$125. (rebates for memberships)
+ \$73. (donation for High Commissioner for Refugees)

Expenses: - \$167.60 (expenses for annual meeting)
- \$200. (Honorarium for Pamela DeLargy, speaker on Women Refugees)
- \$5.00 (bank service charge)

Board gives Marjory permission to investigate \$5.00 monthly bank charge and look into possible other banks without a service charge.

Report by Mel Boynton: Advocacy events this past month

- Visit to Congresswoman Judy Chu's office: staff was hospitable; The House of Representatives circulating a letter of support for the UN, and Chu is in support
- National Advocacy Scene is strong with petitions, signatures, tweets supporting UN funding
- On Wednesday, April 12, seven representatives from UN Southern CA chapters, including Mel, met with staff of Senator Dianne Feinstein and staff of Senator Kamala Harris.
- Senator Harris is a strong supporter of right to legal counsel for immigrants, strong on women's issues, environment, education and health.
- Art Sutton: also went to Judy Chu's office and will contact congress person for Pomona district
- Mel spoke to the University Club on '*UN in the Time of Trump*'. The talk was well received.
- Thursday, April 13: event on Refugees and US Responsibility at the League of Women Voters.
- It would be good for our chapter to write letters to Claremont Courier, LA Times, and Inland Valley Bulletin.
- Judy Chu will hold a Town Hall, Claremont, April 25. We should all participate to increase chances of UN funding.
- State Department funding expected to be cut by 30 percent.

Report by Charlene Martin on Programs

- Aim of our monthly programs: educate and conduct outreach to community on global issues.
- **Next monthly meeting:** Tuesday, April 25, 7pm, Pomona College
- **Other upcoming UN Assoc. events:**
 - May 16: Cal Poly Model UN Team
 - June 20: Mel's talk on UN in the Time of Trump
 - July 18: Editor of Claremont Courier talks on The Importance of a Free Press

Report by Katie on the local refugee project

- Barbara Aswad is point person between UN Assoc. and Resettlement Committee
- The refugees lost their housing and need many items, such as linens, towels, etc.
- Contact Barbara if anyone is interested in donating to the refugees
- Opoku has a microwave and would like to donate
- Looking for UN publications that would interest young people
- League of Women Voters is a good way to collaborate with others.

Dan Petersen

- Dan is a Physics professor at Harvey Mudd and is serving on the Board's Advisory Committee and will share his perspectives on science and the environment.

Charlene

- Presented questions needing board approval
- We have \$300 for programming this year and already spent \$200 for the speaker honorarium
- We had a \$480 windfall last year from Pomona College arranged by Bertil.
- Charlene presented a Motion for an additional \$200 for program
- Motion unanimously approved by board.

Bertil

- We need to find ways to raise money and get more members from the Claremont Colleges
- Suggested outreach letter to the various deans' offices
- We can all do more to get the word out for UN Day in October
- More aggressive outreach

Charlene

- Suggested developing a letter to invite people in the community to join the UN Assoc.

Claudia shared her thoughts on fundraising

- Has friends in the entertainment industry and suggested getting artists engaged in UN Association events.
- She will approach Yo Yo Ma regarding showing of Silk Road Project film.
- Can contact Claremont Laemmle for a possible film showing for community outreach purposes.
- Has a photographer artist friend in LA whose work represents counter culture; he's willing to do a presentation for free. Will explore musicians and artists for our fall events.

High School Essay Contest

- Leena and Charlene will discuss the details
- Mel raised \$200 from University Club for the contest
- We have \$200 from last year, so a total of \$400 for prizes
- Sylvia will help on the HS essay contest subcommittee
- Winner to read essay at the University Club
- Board discussed contest at public vs. private schools
- We need to come up with possible essay topics.

Mel

- We need a committee to review the bylaws template.
- Bylaws need to be reviewed and tweaked to make them relevant to our chapter

- Bob Zheng will join the UN Assoc. again this fall as an intern.

Katie

- Will look into having a UN Assoc. booth at Memorial Park on July 4th.
- Cost is \$90 for a booth
- Motion approved.

Charlene

- ***Next Board Meeting will be in June or July after checking with Bertil***
- Trying to have 4 Board Meetings per year.

Respectfully submitted,

Leena Khan