

ATAD Board - Minutes of Meeting

April 4, 2017

Final

Present: Sharon Garofanello, Iva Doser, Peggy Lull, Debra Allwell, Randy Peacock, Sue Isgrigg, Barbara Pellicano, Rosalba Pisaturo, Tonya Thompson, Robert Watson, Dean Ekberg, Elaine Morel, Marina Sweeney

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by President, Sharon Garofanello.

Order of business: The order of business was reviewed and accepted without change.

Minutes of previous meeting: The Board Members approved the minutes of our February 2017 meetings without changes.

Treasurer's report: Dean Ekberg

As we approach the end of the Fiscal Year, please be sure to submit any claims for reimbursement as soon as possible.

Host Families: Elaine Morel, Debra Allwell, Karen Grover

We now have 4 applications: 2 from Caltanissetta, Italy (Yvonne and Lorenzo) and 2 from Mallorca, Spain (Sebastian and Maria). Debbie sent the summaries mid-March and hopefully, everyone had a chance to market our students to their community.

All of the ATAD students are attending the Luncheon at the Pittsford Seniors Center. Karen and Elaine's calls to potential future families has not netted anything yet. Elaine wishes to have a brainstorm session in April with board members. The goal is market ATAD so we get host families soon before the end of the school year.

Americans Overseas: Peggy Lull

We have four AO applicants: a student from SOTA has applied for a year in Caltanissetta; a student from Canandaigua Academy has applied for a year in Rennes; a student from Virginia has applied for a summer in Rennes; and a student from SOTA, who initially applied for a summer in Iquitos, has now indicated an interest in a summer in Krakow.

I am working on scheduling the AO orientation on a date to be determined, hopefully in April. I have offered 7 possible dates during this month and am waiting to hear the AOs' availability. I would love to have board assistance with this orientation; I will let you know as soon as I have a date!

State Department: Sue Isgrigg

Our designation by the State Department is up in July. Sue is gathering the paperwork needed for re-designation. The fee has been paid (\$3,982) electronically. Paperwork will be submitted next week.

Board members who do not keep their online training up to date continue to be a problem. Currently there are two people.

CSIET:

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Nothing to report.

Policies and Procedures Committee:

No report.

Website development: George Morgan

No report.

Social Media:

No report.

Outreach: Tonya Thompson

Looking for a board member to be present at Rochester City School District award presentation when a date is confirmed.

Activities: Barbara Pellicano

International Dinner was cancelled and won't be rescheduled. June 4th is the ATAD farewell picnic.

Programs:

Novgorod: Marina Sweany/Debra Allwell

Debra – Milana is doing very well. She had a good second quarter report card, receiving an A+ in English, a B in US history and Government, an A+ in algebra and A's in all of her dancing/music classes. She enjoys her school very much but doesn't participate in afterschool activities other than her dance recitals.

Milana enjoyed a weekend trip to New York City during the February break with Vika and her mom. They stayed at a youth hostel at 36 W106 Street.

Kristine, Milana's host mom, invited Milana to travel with her to Florida during Easter break to visit with Kristine's family.

Marina

Dasha said there is not too much going on. She keeps making movies for her film class. She took part in Monroe County Stop DWI competition and send her clip to them. If she wins they will show it on TV. Now she is working on a longer documentary. She gets good grades. She went to Russian Ballet and to Philharmonic Orchestra Performance. She can't wait for a better weather to start walking more.

Krakow: Randy Peacock

I spoke with Mateusz via telephone on the evening of March 30th. He sounded to be in good spirits and told me that he was very much enjoying his experience with the Allen family.

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Mateusz has continued to be very successful at school. His GPA for the second quarter of the year increased from the first quarter. He scores very highly in all of his classes.

The spring play has been completed and there are no more drama events remaining for the rest of the school year. Mateusz told me that he continues to be involved in the Odyssey of the Mind program and that he will be traveling to Binghamton this coming weekend to compete. He is excited that his team may move on to a regional competition if they are successful.

Mateusz sounded concerned that his time here is drawing to a close. He said that he will very much miss his host family.

I offered to take Mateusz on an outing once the weather gets a bit nicer. He was excited to do that and said he would look forward to it.

Bamako: Alicia Ward

Nothing to report.

Caltanissetta: Rosalba Pisaturo

I visited with Elena and her host family last week. Elena is doing very well in school and participating in several school activities. She has done a lot of traveling with her host family. During Winter break they went to Ottawa in Canada and during Spring break they will travel to Boston. She attended the Pittsford Senior Citizens Luncheon on April 4th and it was a good occasion to share her experience as an exchange student. She is planning to travel back home on June 27th with Mikayla, her host sister, who will spend the summer with her in Caltanissetta. Elena's mother in Italy is making all the travel arrangements for the two girls. I received two applications from Italy for the academic year 2017-18, Yvonne Di Francesco and Lorenzo Calvagna. I will meet these two candidates next week when I travel to Caltanissetta with the Sister Cities delegation, and I will personally get to know them. We are searching for two host families and I have asked Elena and the Green family to pass the word around. We have one AO for the next academic year, Alyssa Steger. I will also deliver her file to Rosetta Costa for her placement in Caltanissetta. I will be out of the country from April 12th to April 21st. Sharon Garofanello will be the emergency contact for the Green family.

Rennes: Elaine Morel

Damien is doing well and has been much busier. Robotics took up much of his time in February and March. Although the team didn't have a high ranking in the competition, Damien seemed to enjoy the activities. He also went skiing with Michael and Jonah and went sledding with friends during our snowstorm. He is now playing JV tennis. He continues to perform well at school.

Majorca: Joanne Funk

Laura is doing well. She is participating in track right now which she is very much enjoying.

She attended the prom with friends and a date. Her date was just a very good friend. :) It was at Locust Hill. She had a great time.

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She did the school play in March which she really enjoyed. My sister actually attended and said it was wonderful.

The family was in Florida during spring break with their grandparents. Laura said it was very hot, but had a great time.

Laura mentions every time we talk how much she loves her family and how much better it is. She has said recently that it feels like her own family. She said that she and Cassidy have not fought at all.

In communication with Ellen Schild, the host mom, things seem to be going well also raising two teenage girls! She is pleased that Laura is happy.

Wurzburg: Bob Wason

In response to Sharon, who wrote to me that there was a family in Webster interested in hosting a German student, I wrote to Utschig, and on his behalf I ask the Board to consider his request to send a student between May 2018 and October 2018. I also ask that we discuss the possibility of a "high-school to university interim stay" that occurs during this 4/5-month period. This would be ideal for the German program, since the *Abitur* finishes in May, and the "winter semester" does not begin until October.

After discussion among the Board members it was clear that this options doesn't work for the State department visa program. The possibility is only for the summer program – eight weeks visitor's program. However it is very hard to find the right set up for the summer when the school experience is not included, so the Board didn't accept these options.

Iquitos: Barb Pellicano

Nothing to report.

Arequipa: Tom Greiner

No report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM on April 4, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Iva Doser