

ATAD Board - Minutes of Meeting

February 6 , 2024

FINAL

Present: Sharon Garofanello, Iva Doser, George Morgan, Suzanne Isgrigg, Deb Allen, Randall Peacock, Peggy Lull, Guillame Youboue, Barbara Pelicano, Marina Sweeney

Call to order: The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:10 pm by Sharon Garofanello. The minutes from January 2024 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report:

Working with CPA to prepare taxes. Background checks and CSIET fees paid.

Host Families: Sue Isgrigg

What students are we expecting? We have one Italian boy for the summer, one Italian boy for first semester and a Russian girl for the full year. They are listed on our website. There is reported to be an Italian girl for the full year. We need her application to get started on her placement. Any others?

Sue attended a meeting of Pittsford foreign exchange parents group held at the Spiegel Center Sunday, February 3. Three other programs were there. We all brought students. ATAD brought Lucia. We spoke about hosting and opportunities to go abroad. This group plans to meet three times a year and they will keep us in the loop.

The Davila family in Brockport has notified us that they would like to host a girl for next year. They currently host Ariane. I recommend that we have Guillaume work with them again next year regardless of the country of origin of the IS.

Brighton High has asked us to sponsor a boy from Spain. The potential host mother is a guidance counselor at Brighton High School. She knows the family as they were neighbors several years ago. The boy is going to be a freshman. The Brighton Superintendent has approved him. I explained that he has to be 14 1/2 by the starting date. Sue is asking for the ATAD board to vote to accept this boy even though he is younger than our program allows. Brighton requires we submit all paperwork by April 1. I let the guidance counselor know this. The Board moved to approve accepting the student.

A family from Webster has asked if we would sponsor her nephew from the Czech Republic. Sue explained that this will not meet State Department regulations. If the Webster family was active with ATAD (as a host family) we could help bring the nephew for another family to host. The Webster family is considering hosting the summer boy from Italy. They will look for another family to host the nephew.

CSET:

Fee was paid and paperwork submitted. Certificate of Acceptance received for the 2024-2025 school year.

State Department: Sue Isgrigg

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Joe McClaney is our new Assistance Responsible Officer. Paperwork was submitted and he is now on the State Department website. That means he can sign any of our students' DS2019 when they want to go to Canada. Sue Isgrigg is our Responsible Officer. She will train Joe so he can issue visas for the coming school year.

Activities: Randy Peacock

International Dinner will be Saturday March 9th at Kings Bend Lodge in Pittsford. The flyers will be distributed soon with the exact time.

The hockey game was great event. Very good attendance.

Americans Overseas: Peggy Lull

We are in the process of interviewing one AO applicant, a girl from Mercy HS who is interested in a summer exchange to Majorca. I anticipate the interview process to be successfully completed soon.

Website Update: George Morgan

Nothing new to report.

Guillame Youboue

Ariane Amantegi Aguirre (Spain)

The family have been very busy. Tried to reach out to them but there are no updates.

Sharon - Angelica

Angelica was a volunteer at the Polar Plunge with her host family this past weekend. Her birthday is this month and she is going to FL for spring break. Her host mom is a runner, and she is competing at an event.

Marina

Astrid is very friendly, and she laughs a lot. She helps out and became friends with some girls from Guatemala.

Randy Peacock – Majorca

Lucia was at the hockey game and she is having a great time and is doing well. Randy is attempting to find out what her grades are for the first and second semester.

Deb Allen

Trying to arrange a visit with Marga. They were busy around the holidays but there is a plan for a check in next week. She is doing well, playing basketball for a while but no longer on the team because she was not getting enough court time.

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Alicia – Bamaco

No report.

Barbara Pellicano – Mallorca

Teresa continues to be doing excellent! Second quarter ended and Teresa excelled in all of her classes. One of the highlights for Teresa was going to a Buffalo Bills playing off game with her family. She thoroughly enjoys being part of the ski club. She was proud to say she did the intermediate slope. She is looking forward to February break. New England is on the list as the family will be visiting various colleges for her host brother, Nick. Overall, Teresa is doing great!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Iva Doser