

# ATAD Board - Minutes of Meeting

January 8, 2019

Final

**Present:** Sharon Garofanello, Peggy Lull, Les Knox, Bob Wason, Sue Isgrigg, Iva Doser, Randy Peacock, Marina Sweany, Dean Ekberg, Deb Allwell, Alicia Ward

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:10 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 from November 2018 without change.

## **Treasurer's report: Dean Ekberg**

1. Attached are standard Balance Sheet and Budget vs. Actual reports.
2. Despite no solicitation having been made this year, we have received two contributions totaling \$150.
3. I have received a Form J and a completed Form K (request for financial aid) for a student in Rochester (Adrian B. Clark, Jr.) and a completed Form J indicating no need for financial aid for a student in Medina, Ohio (Sophie Alber). I assume someone has received completed AO applications for these two students, however I have received no checks covering their application fees. We will need to set up an Exec. Committee meeting to discuss the financial aid request.

## **Host Families: Sue Isgrigg**

We were able to find one host family in Geneseo for the girl from Peru. Randy Peacock has agreed to be her program chair since he is doing the other student in Geneseo. We do not have an arrival date yet for this girl but it will be the end of January. Geneseo High School also accepted the boy from Peru but we were unable to find him a family. Currently we have three completed files for next fall. Pittsford has agreed to look at the file for the boy from France. We have an interested host family. There are two students from Mallorca. We have their short blurbs on our website. There is an interested family in Pittsford that may take the boy. We are expecting an application for a girl from Italy.

## **Americans Overseas: Peggy Lull**

I have received partial applications from three students:

- A boy from Webster Schroeder HS is interested in Wurzburg, Germany
- A girl from Medina, OH HS (parent was AO?) is interested in Majorca, Spain
- A boy from RCSD World of Inquiry HS is interested in a summer or a semester in Peru or Majorca, Spain

## **State Department: Debby Allwell**

The certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status for Alba from Arequipa, Peru, has been completed and sent to the ATAD rep down in Peru for final processing and orientation. Alba is going to be a one semester student starting January 2019 to June 2019.

## **CSIET:**

Nothing to report.

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## **Policies and Procedures Committee: Peggy Lull**

Nothing to report.

## **Website development: George Morgan**

No report.

## **Social Media: Mary Jane Stark**

No updates for Social Media other than to keep the pictures coming from any events that happen and to encourage families to do the same.

## **Outreach: Tonya Thompson**

Final attempts were made to recruit applicants for scholarship. Tonya did a presentation to high school upperclassman from Baden Street afterschool program. She expected at least two seniors who were very interested would apply, but they did not.

Adrian Clark Sr. who works in her building became interested when she was circulating the ATAD flyer. He mentioned his son was a senior at #58 and in October she urged him to apply. Tonya asked the school counselor to send his record before the Christmas break.

The application was mailed on time.

## **Activities: Barbara Pellicano**

The ANNUAL ISCOR (International Sister Cities of Rochester) RECEPTION at City Hall is Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 5:30 -7:00 PM. Dinner at Dinosaur BBQ will be at 7 pm. Invites are in the mail. Please let Barb know ASAP if you are attending the reception/dinner.

Three of the 5 families have responded and will be attending the reception and dinner. I have not heard from Hannah Kemmer's host family nor Alena Krymskaya's host family so I am assuming they will not attend.

## **Programs:**

### **Bamako: Alicia Ward**

No news from Bamako. Guillaume Yoboue – RCSD French teacher is a potential candidate for the board position for France.

### **Wurzburg: Bob Wason**

Hanna is doing well. Sending a written notification to the family about Hanna's living conditions.

### **Arequipa: Barb Pellicano**

We have 2 students from Arequipa that we need to place.

### **Alba Maria Garcia Calderon Lopez**

January - June 2019

### **Aaron Medinas**

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## **Iquitos, Peru: Barb Pellicano**

Nothing to report.

## **Novgorod: Marina Sweany**

Anna is doing really well. She is done with swimming season and now is participating in track. She was performing at the Russian school New Year Celebration and did a good job being Father Frost's granddaughter. She keeps busy all the time. Alena got home sick during the holidays and spent New Year with Marina. She is doing really well in school - 96 average. She has a few really good friends. Her host mom is concerned about Alena's eating habits and crying, she feels like Alena might be depressed.

## **Rennes:**

Looking for a program chair for the France.

## **Krakow: Randy Peacock**

1. As of December of 2018 I am taking over as liaison for Maria Gomez who is residing with the Allen family in Geneseo, New York.
2. On December 3<sup>rd</sup> Sue Isgrig and I met with Maria and took her out for dinner so that I could introduce myself and check on her wellbeing. I was not overly confident in her happiness with her placement with the Allens. After questioning her about her experience so far she shared with Sue and I some details that have resulted in her unhappiness. Her host father is still troubled by his daughters accidental death a year ago this past fall and, from the descriptions provided, seems to be having a difficult time with his interactions with Maria. Her host mother works in Rochester during the day and Maria explained that she is often times on her own after school until Deb Allen arrives home. Maria is having difficulty with transportation home from school in the afternoons post extra-curricular activities as her host father will not pick her up at the high school. Maria shared with us that she had experienced a similar tragedy with the loss of a close friend of hers to an automobile accident and she was very emotional with us in explaining the difficulty of dealing with her current host family status. We discussed with Maria an option of moving to another host family. She told us that she has a good friend at school whose mother has offered her the opportunity to spend the remainder of the year with them. Maria did not want to move immediately and said she would think about it and get back to me. I have not heard from her since that date.
3. I received a copy of Maria's second quarter report card and she is doing very well in all of her subjects with A's and high B's.
4. Maria traveled with the Allens to Texas over the Christmas break. I have emailed her to check in on how she is doing but have not heard an answer back from her yet.
5. On December 3<sup>rd</sup> Sue and I interviewed the two halves of a host family and both interviews went well.

## **Majorca: Barbara Pellicano (interim)**

Vicente is doing well. The highlight of his Christmas vacation was spending time with family, friends and exchanging gifts. He also had a great time at a New Year's party with friends from school. He recently joined SKI club and loves it.... Especially the snow. He enjoys doing things with his family. Dave and Buster's was a recent hit. He is doing fine in all of his

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classes. However, he feels he can and will do better next quarter. Overall, Vicente continues to have a positive experience.

**Caltanissetta: Rosalba Pisaturo**

Rosetta Costa informed me that there is one female student applying for 2019-20 school year. The Culturscambi committee is in the process of appointing new members to the committee, possibly a new President. Sharon should inform Rosetta of her travel plans as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM January 8, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Iva Doser