

# **ATAD Board - Minutes of Meeting**

**November 13, 2018**

**Final**

**Present:** Sharon Garofanello, Peggy Lull, Alicia Ward, Les Knox, Bob Wason, Sue Isgrigg, MJ Stark, Barb Pellicano, Iva Doser, Randy Peacock, George Morgan, Marina Sweany

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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 September 2018 and October 2018 meeting.

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

Attached are Budget vs. Actual and Balance Sheet reports. All IS fees have been collected, all bills have been paid. To date, no application fees have been received for potential AO kids. I received an email from Intellicorp alerting me to a small increase in their charge for background checks effective in January. Our budget has enough "wiggle room" in this category to accommodate this increase.

## **Host Families: Sue Isgrigg**

All five host families were visited by independent board members during October. We have changed the program chair in charge of Maria in Geneseo. It will be Randy Peacock for the remainder of the year. Maria has helped us find a host family for Alba from Peru. We will shortly be interviewing the family in Geneseo. We are still in need of a host family for Aaron from Peru for January. Pittsford and Fairport have told us they don't want semester students. Pittsford has agreed to look at the file for Florian from France even though this is early for next fall. We have a potential host family at Sutherland High School. We have a complete file for a student from Mallorca for next fall.

## **Americans Overseas: Peggy Lull**

Nothing to report.

## **State Department: Debby Allwell**

Nothing to report about the State Department.

Out of the country 11/14-11/27. Reach out to Sue Isgrigg for all matters pertaining to the State Department

## **CSIET:**

Nothing to report.

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

The committee met in October and its next meeting is scheduled later in November.

The committee is continuing the process of revising the International Student Application & Parent/Student Agreement, and the Treasurer job description.

## **Website development: George Morgan**

No activities on the website.

Looking to integrate online survey and Google platforms on the website.

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

Send photos for events to post them on Social media.

## **Outreach: Tonya Thompson**

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Recruitment for scholarship applicants continues:

- Emails went out to specific school counselors to remind them of scholarship
- Posters were sent to schools to post
- Made presentation to a small group of about 10 highly motivated RCSD high school students. Students were part of a Baden street Young Adult on the Move program – Clinton-Baden Community Center. There were two seniors very interested in applying.

Alicia made presentation to Rochester Teachers' Assoc crime victims support committee which is a combination of teachers' staff at professional development.

## **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**

Alicia attended a dinner with an ATAD exchange student from the 80s. She came for her host sister's wedding reception.

### **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**

January – June 2019

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

Nothing to report.

### **Novgorod: Marina Sweany**

Girls are busy and both traveling. Alona is planning a family trip to Boston. Anya didn't make the musical and she was upset. She will talk to the councilor. She was on swim team for the season in Webster and is considering her other options. She gets along with her family.

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## **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 Martin Garcia-Marcos**

Vicente is doing well. In school, he is excelling in his classes. He achieved a 90 GPA first quarter. His family has been keeping him busy. They have gone to Niagara Falls, Amerks games, a Bills game, Laser tag, Fun Zone and they will be planning on going to a Sabres game as well. They are also planning a visit to the Outerbanks.

Vicente has developed a close relationship with his host brother. Overall, he has adjusted well with school, house rules and expectations. Vicente's mom has communicated with the Bennets expressing her gratitude and comfort knowing that he is doing well based on Vicente's communication back home.

Vicente is also managing his diabetes extremely well. The family's goal is to prepare him for the winter months ahead.

## **Caltanissetta: Rosalba Pisaturo**

Nothing to report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM November 13, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Iva Doser