

ATAD Board - Minutes of Meeting

November 12 , 2024

FINAL

Present: Sharon Garofanello, Iva Doser, Barbara Pellicano, George Morgan, Suzanne Isgrigg, George Morgan, Guillaume Yoboue, Deb Allen, MJ Stark, Randy Peacock, Joe McClellan, Marina Sweany, Alicia Ward

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Guillaume Yoboue. The minutes from October 2024 meetings were approved.

Treasurer's report:

MJ brought up a discussion around the increase of fees. The net revenue from the document MJ submitted to the board, we are in the negative. The loss is about \$4000/per year. If we want to break even, we have to come up with another \$4000/year which means that our fees have to be increased by \$1000 per person.

Sharon made a motion to increase the tuition fees to \$4500 and the board unanimously approved.

Host Families: Sue Isgrigg

We have received two completed applications from Spain. There is a boy (brother of the boy we did not place last year) and a girl (sister of Marga from last year, also Alfonso's niece.). The girl would like a family with horses or a veterinarian.

CSET:

Nothing to report.

State Department: Sue Isgrigg

Nothing to report.

Activities: Randy Peacock

We have to set a date for the International Dinner in March. The Spiegel Center in Pittsford is a good venue and it is free.

Americans Overseas: Peggy Lull

No report.

Website Update: George Morgan

Nothing new to report. George has not worked on the new logo yet.

Sharon

Sharon visited Valeria over the holiday weekend. She was having difficulty connecting with her. They met for a light breakfast at Panera and she's doing well. She is taking Honors classes but it sounds like her host mom said Valeria is struggling. Her grades are being sent out soon so I will take a look. I suggested we drop her down from Honors into regular classes. Her host mom said she thought she would argue that idea.

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She has made quite a few new friends with other exchange students at her school, church and host family members. She has been invited to many events at their home or to do things with them.

She just finished the tennis season and did ok. It was a sport she never took up back home. She is involved with the crew in the next school play. ;

She loves sweets! She's not fussy, her host family enjoys having her, wish she would pick up her room more, change her sheets and put her dishes in the dishwasher.

Overall, everything is going well.

Her host family is going to be taking her to Vermont and NYC. She's excited about that.

Deb Allen - Mallorca

I met with Julia on Sunday, Nov. 3 (brought donuts and cider to her host home)—met with just her (host family was out/at a funeral). She seems overall pretty happy, though rather dismissive of the US education system (repetitive, predictable, excessive amount of homework). She played soccer but is now dealing with an ACL injury and unsure of how and when that will be addressed. Gets along well with her host family, though the 8 year old little brother “can be a pain when he wants attention”! They’ve done some traveling, and will be going to FL over February break. Overall, Julia is glad she made the decision to come here, though the distance/isolation/lack of public transportation is a tough adjustment compared to how easy it was for her to get around, to school, to see friends, etc at home (she is within an easy walking distance to school, but along a very busy road). The host family has reported separately that they love having Julia in their home, and are very glad to have decided to host her.

Marina

Enjoyed Halloween and loves the school. She is doing well.

Randy Peacock – Würzburg

Nothing to report

Alicia – Bamaco

Difficult to obtain visas for kids from Bamaco still.

Barbara Pellicano

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Iva Doser