

# ATAD Board - Minutes of Meeting

September 5, 2017

## Final

**Present:** Debra Allwell, Iva Doser, Sharon Garofanello, Dean Ekberg, Peggy Lull, Barbara Pellicano, Marina Sweany, Bob Wason, George Morgan, Randy Peacock, Mary Jane Stark, Eve Rubenstein

**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 minutes of the June 2017 meeting without changes.

**Introducing new board members** – Mary Jane Stark is appointed as Social media coordinator and Eve Rubenstein is appointed as Program Chair for Rennes through 06/30/2018

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

Our accountants at EFPR Group are in the process of their review of our 2016-2017 finances. When their review is completed, I will send board members copies of the Financial Statements for the year. Our annual filings with IRS and NYS will be completed and submitted at the same time.

### **Host Families:**

We received five international student applications for the 2017–18 school year, and host families were found for all, however only the student from Novgorod, Russia and the two from Mallorca, Spain will partake in the exchange program.

Looking for a Chair for Host Families – discussing ideas how to reach out and search for volunteers.

### **Americans Overseas: Peggy Lull**

No report due to the time of year.

### **State Department: Sue Isgrigg**

Three students were registered on the SEVIS system in July. In August we received official notice that we have been re-designated by the state department for another two years.

### **CSIET:**

All annual dues have been paid.

### **Policies and Procedures Committee:**

No report.

### **Website development: George Morgan**

We will be adding a security certificate to the website for additional protection.

### **Social Media:**

No report.

### **Outreach: Tonya Thompson**

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Jordan left and returned successfully from his trip to Poland. Best thing about the experience for him was getting to meet new people and seeing firsthand how the culture changed from communism to democracy. The downfall was the lack of diversity which he has learned to appreciate here in America.

Alyssa will go to NYC in the very near future to get her visa for Italy. She is scheduled to leave on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> for Italy.

Two years of attending the college fairs and following up on contacts has not yielded much benefit to recruiting Gary Simon scholarship applicants. Therefore, I did not sign up with one this year. In search of another method.

### **Activities: Barbara Pellicano**

First overnight event is on September 23-24. New schedule of activities has been e-mailed to all Board Members.

### **Programs:**

#### **Bamako: Alicia Ward**

No report.

#### **Wurzburg: Bob Wason**

No report.

#### **Arequipa: Tom Greiner**

No report.

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

Nothing to report.

#### **Novgorod: Marina Sweany**

Debbie shared that Milana departed June 16 as scheduled and it was a very rewarding program for her. She enjoyed her school and her classes but is ready to pursue her college education and communications back home.

The student from Russia has arrived. It seems that the student gets along with host sister. Alina likes Brockport and is very excited.

### **Rennes:**

#### **Krakow: Randy Peacock**

#### **Mateusz Olszamowski**

Mateusz departed Rochester on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. He has a very successful year at Geneseo High School. I saw him off at the airport and he was very grateful for his experience.

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Before he left for home I did have a chance to introduce him to Jordan Majors. Along with Mike Leach we took a drive through Letchworth State Park and allowed the two young men to get acquainted. (We also saw a cougar walking down the middle of the road in the park.)

### **Jordan Majors**

The Polish Heritage Society of Rochester and the Sister Cities Committee graciously provided a stipend of \$1,300 so that Jordan Majors could travel to Poland for a summer exchange. Jordan left Rochester on July 11. He had a bit of a bumpy trip to Poland having missed his connecting flight in Toronto. After some last minute luck Canada Air rebooked him at no additional cost and he continued on to Poland the next day. Jordan spent six weeks in Krakow with Mateausz's family. He traveled around Poland and stayed with relatives of the family in other cities. Jordan returned to Rochester on August 22<sup>nd</sup> without incident.

### **Majorca: Joanne Funk**

On August 29th Sebastian and Maria Del Mar arrived from Majorca. Their flights went smoothly however Maria's luggage did not arrive to Rochester with her. Fortunately arrived the next day. Both had a good trip but we're tired. Maria and her host family left for New York City on the following Friday through Monday of the following week. Both students were able to register for their classes prior to school beginning.

There was a little bit of extra footwork in making the schedule because originally the courses that they were signed up for were not going to be appropriate for what they needed back in Spain. After a few extra emails things got resolved and both are enrolled in the necessary courses.

### **Caltanissetta: Rosalba Pisaturo**

The two Italian students for the 2017-18 school year, Yvonne and Lorenzo, had been placed with a family and in the Greece Athena School District, but they decided not to come.

The one AO, Alyssa Steger, will be hosted by the family of Claudio Ginevra in Caltanissetta and is in the process of getting her student Visa from the Italian Consulate in New York. All her documents are ready and she will be going to New York City this week. She will be leaving for Italy on September 22nd and returning on June 30, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM on September 5, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,  
Iva Doser