

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES – ALTRUSA OF COLUMBUS**

**April 19, 2011**

**Tim Horton's, Riverside Drive**

The Altrusa of Columbus Board met on April 19, 2011, from approximately 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Attendees were: President Marilyn King, Immediate Past President Linda Nusbaum, Treasurer Judy Montjoy, Secretary Claudia Speakman, Board Directors Cari Wolfe and Becky Harmon, and representatives of the Membership Committee and Foundation, Jen Ross and Lois Borin.

**The President opened the meeting and asked for approval of the Board meeting minutes of January 6, 2011.** Linda N. made motion for approval; Cari W. seconded; and minutes were approved by vote.

**Treasurer Montjoy presented a financial report.** Judy reported account balances. She mentioned that the \$50 expense for Foundation Raffle Basket; the \$25 donation in memory of Altrusan Thelma Gerson and the expense of the tuna crackers donated to District 5 will be reflected in her next report. The report was filed for audit.

**Judy subsequently mentioned that for last year's District Conference, the Club paid both Registration and Room costs for the two delegates and Registration cost for the two alternates.** These costs are reimbursed after members provide receipts to her.

**Judy gave information about annual dues. These are \$115.00 for members and \$125 for new members.** The form for payment of dues will be sent to each member by email. Dues may be paid by check or with credit card. If latter, she needs the credit card number and the member's zip code.

**Question raised as to whether dues could be paid by installments.** Judy said she would need to keep track of payments. Discussion was had as to number of payments and the amounts. **Linda N. moved that the Board allow club members the option to pay annual dues in two payments: \$60.00 by June 1 and \$55.00 by September 1. Motion seconded by Becky H. and was approved by vote of members.**

**Lois Borin, Foundation Representative, gave financial information as to Altrusa International of Columbus Foundation, Inc.** She indicated the checking account balance was \$15,935.51 and investments balance was \$111,788. The Foundation's assets are up \$2000 over last quarter. These balances do not include profit from April 9 concert.

**Lois reported that the Foundation earned \$2275 from the Ladies of Longford Concert.** The expenses were \$2565 and income included \$3,440 from sales of 86 tickets, \$200 in general donations, \$200 given by Stanley Steamer, and \$1,000 gift from USB, Grove Financial Services. Lois has provided this information to Fundraising Chair for evaluation and determination of a repeat event next year.

**The Board and members discussed the Club's participation in the Concert as a fundraising event.** While there was positive feedback as to the Concert, only half of the Club's members participated. This may have been the result of the price of the tickets (\$40 each) or the small number of tasks for members to carry out. We were disappointed in the lack of sales by McConnell website or to "followers" of the Ladies of Longford. Marilyn said she was glad the Club gave this type of fundraiser a try. The key may be to obtain more sponsorship to underwrite the expense of an event.

**The Board considered the application from Mary Smithson for membership in Altrusa.** Linda N. moved and Judy M. seconded a motion that Mary Smithson be accepted by the Board as a member of Altrusa of Columbus. Jen Ross reported that Mary's application info had been sent to all members by email and she had talked with Colleen McMurray. The responses she received were positive. By Board vote, Mary Smithson was approved for membership. She will be initiated at June 2 meeting.

**The installation of Board officers and directors will occur at the May 5 Club meeting.** Since neither Jen Ross nor Bonnie Blankenship, Membership Co-Chairs, will be able to attend on May 5, Jen will ask Susan Christoff if she will lead the installation. Cari said she will obtain the flowers for the ceremony.

**The Board discussed the Club's Strategic Plan and focus for 2011-12.** The Club's strategic plan(s) will need to be reviewed and revised by the Board, directors, and committee chairs. A focus on club membership for next year may be discussed at the June 2 meeting.

Lois asked if the committee chairs would be named soon and keep "momentum" flowing? She said there needs to be carry through from one committee chair to the next with discussion of how to better accomplish the committee's work.

Linda said she would like to be on the service committee and manage the grant process but not the "one-day" service projects. After discussion, Linda and Cari agreed they would serve as Co-Chairs of the Service Committee.

Marilyn will consider chairs for the other committees of the Club.

**Jen Ross led a discussion of a memo that had been prepared by the Membership Committee.** Jen said there are only three members on this committee and recommends that more members be added. Recruiting new members and retaining current ones are vital to the Club's effectiveness. There needs to be a focus on membership in every Club committee and function.

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There was discussion as to whether service projects are the way to bring new members into the Club? Linda said perhaps in 2011-12 the focus of the Service Committee will be on community service rather the grant process. There could be several service projects in different areas of Columbus, such as the Homeless Families Shelter on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, or volunteering in the various Homework Help Centers. If you “regionalize” the service projects, then Altrusans can invite their neighbors and friends to participate and become acquainted with Altrusa and its purpose.

**Jen mentioned the concern about retention of members.** A number of new members from 2010 will not renew this year for various reasons, such as job or life changes. How can we prevent the loss of members and help them realize the enrichment that comes from being an Altrusan? The Club needs a stronger focus on membership and its relation to service.

**The Board discussed the June 2 meeting.** There will be an initiation of new member, Mary Smithson. There also will be an open discussion about the Club’s strategic plan with a focus on membership and service. Either Linda or Judy will assist as a facilitator.

**Judy had a question as to “ASTRA dollars” given to Columbus** by Altrusa International. A balance of \$471 is in a separate club account but should it be part of Foundation account? Discussion held and decision made to leave the dollars in the Club account and spend as needed on ASTRA activities. Lois mentioned that an OSU finance professor, Susan Clark, is willing to sponsor the ASTRA club at OSU. However, the students are not coming forward. The next steps are uncertain.

Meeting ended at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Claudia Speakman, May 7, 2011