

UNA-Southern California Division
Minutes - May 21, 2011

The division meeting was held on Saturday, May 21, 2011 at Javan restaurant, 11500 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA. 90025. 23 persons attended per sign in sheet plus Barbara Tabyani, Fahriye Mahrenholz, and Estherleon Shwartz. The meeting ran from 11:30 to 3:00 pm.

Division President, Mel Boynton, welcomed everyone and chaired the meeting. He thanked Barbara and Fahriye, co-presidents of the LA chapter, for having made the luncheon arrangements. Each person present spoke a few words of self-introduction.

Treasurer's report - The following points were made: The Regional Council has received the updated report. The report needs to be formally adopted. Singled out for discussion were lines 62 (earmarks), 63 balance), 64 (updated amount), and 65, on page 2 of the report. It was brought out that national's payments have the best record.

Barry made a motion to adopt the 2011 budget - page 3; Carolyn Leuzinger seconded. Discussion followed. Barry asked what there was above the \$6000 total. It was pointed out that earmarks were in checking - It was suggested we look at line 64, bottom of page 2. The next point was that Diane will ask how Marco and Paulo Davanzo wish their mother's estate used. The investment account was explained.

Voting was done on Pages 3 & 4. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion by Ted Leuzinger to recognize the treasurer's capacities as superior was passed.

Next, it was brought out that the current meeting was a preparation for Washington DC in June. The following points were made: Operating procedures work as by-laws. The chapter handbook is partially approved. Final commentaries must be in by June 3rd as it is to be approved by our elected representatives and a direct vote growing from the steering committee, which represents the whole country.

Dorothy Boberg objects to and cannot accept a "subordinate" status to BMF. Mel Boynton clarified the status of "Programs", "affiliations", and/or organizations, etc. "Program" was agreed upon. Dorothy raised further objections to the lack of democratic

process in the election. It was brought out that the executive director was hired with major, first rate qualifications. Mel tried to clarify the procedure for input and approval. Gillian Sorenson will be in Southern California Tuesday, July 26, and Wednesday, July 27. There is general agreement that she is fantastic and that this may be a great opportunity for the benefit of the UN Fund. She is willing to come early for a chapter or division event. The 27th would be the target date for us. Mel will be out of town that week. In response to his request for someone to organize a small dinner or event for her, Fahriye volunteered to chair a committee for that purpose, and Rene Wilson, Diane Douglas, and Judith Harris will be on the committee. Mel will put Fahriye in touch with National.

Next, Barry reported that he is planning for the 4th annual West Coast Global Forum for which the theme is "Women making a difference." The tentative date is September 15. Details are forthcoming.

In April 2012, "Prisoners and Patriots" may be shown at UCLA as a possible fundraiser.

Richard Harris was sick and couldn't be present today.

New member packets are coming.

The two following dates were announced: Sunday, June 26, 2011 - next division meeting -- San Diego hosting; Saturday, November 5, 2011 - luncheon & business meeting

Diane Gonzales of the Women's City Club of Pasadena gave a communications report. She encouraged buying ads for the annual meeting.

Ardi reported on the Council of Chapters and Divisions. He emphasized that the mission of UNA USA is strong and driven by the membership and leaders of the chapters. He summarized the transition of CCD in working with the new structure of UNA USA. Ardi and Mel tried to clarify the relationship among divisions, chapters, and regions. They said there are 11 regions, and that in our area divisions and regions are the same. They also said that 4 divisions are strong and support the chapters. Approval in June will give a picture of the new structure. Elections of new officers will occur in January 2012.

Lyn asked for emails with specific language for specific suggested changes.

Rene Wilson reported on the Southern Calif. Regional Council of Organizations (SCRCO) Thursday, March 24, 2011 at the Women's City Club in Pasadena were the date and location of the mini-conference for S. Cal. NGO leaders and representatives to SCRCO. The regional council recommends working with Division. SCRCO is a good model of organization.

Moez Doraid, UN Deputy Director of UN Women for Organizational & Business Development Service, addressed UN Reform and Women's Issues.

Dr. Margaret Soderberg spoke on the Global Health Conference. Obesity was suggested as a topic in children's packets. She also addressed a return to the Millennium Development Goal, and along with other issues, she mentioned concerns with maternal and infant mortality, HIV, and malaria. Fahriye will talk with Margaret.

Barry suggested a 6 months spread for the meetings.

Ted offered the facilities of the Presbyterian Church on 3rd and Western, as a good central location for meetings and events.

Estherleon brought up the canned food campaign for our local community food banks. She suggested each person bring one (or more) can at each event and each meeting.

Jane Roberts from the Redlands UNA chapter reported on the UNF. On June 15, she has a meeting with the new director of the UN Fund for Population - UNFPA - in Wash. DC.

Mel asked for a motion for a letter of support for Jane Roberts' mission. John Beynon made the motion; Lyn Harris Hicks seconded. Motion was passed.

More discussion was held regarding the new organizational structures. Mel listed the purposes of divisions, relating them to a changing organization. He made the point that divisions are optional but must support each other. His term as division president ends in January 2012.

Ted Leuzinger brought up the question of quality for a replacement if Mel steps down.

Barry suggested a base of 3 anchor events, one of which would be the annual meeting. He asked for comments from Ardi who then spoke more about new structures; about choosing delegates at which levels; keeping or not keeping the names of the levels.

Jim Stansberry added comments on the opportunity available through name change (division, region, or other). Mel reiterated the 11 region idea and the fact that the division structure works. It was agreed that we should not decide anything today but that Mel is looking for input for consideration at the June DC meeting.

Mel finished the discussion by saying that our S. Calif. region is number 11 and that we function as a division within a region, though the only formal regional officials are our representatives.

Ted L. made a motion for a straw vote supporting continuing the division structure vs. other forms. Jane Roberts seconded.

Ardi discussed the fact that he prefers the use of the word "region". Mel made the point that the word "region" is not described except for representatives, whereas the word "division" is described and does exist in the documents. Patrick Madden said he would support the division structure.

Barbara Tebyani made comments regarding consideration of funds sources. The question was called -- the non-binding straw vote was voted on only by the members explicitly qualified to vote, and passed, 5 for, 3 against, and 2 abstentions.

Members attending the next meeting, June 26 in San Diego, are invited to stay for the Charter Day celebration.

Judith Harris, Pasadena chapter, reported on the Model UN college and high school programs. She announced the new president, Meghana Frenchman, and said that the executive director is gone. She also stated that unless voted on otherwise, the location for the next annual meeting in November will be the Women City club, 160 N. Oakland, Pasadena.

Dorothy Boberg, San Fernando chapter, asked for support for the "Nuclear Power Plant Safety Act", John Boyden, Whittier chapter, reported on the activities of his chapter.

Joy Adams, Orange County chapter gave her report.

Barbara Tebyani, LA Pacific chapter, announced that Tad Daly will be here in July and suggested we join forces with Citizens for Global Solutions and co- sponsor an event with Tad as speaker. David Harris, San Diego chapter, gave his report and said his chapter is looking forward to hosting the next meeting.

Ike Khamisani, pres. Inland Empire chapter, reported on the "Women Peace Builders" event held May 12, 2011. The attendance was 250 people including UCR faculty and students.

Coming up at the Long Beach-South Bay chapter is a showing of "Count down to Zero," a movie available through National's office and also in San Pedro at the shop run by Diane Gonzales. There will be a discussion at Long Beach City College on June 3rd.

The Division meeting was closed at 3:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by:
Nadine Robinson