

Newcomers of Catawba Valley Board Meeting
March 8, 2016

The board meeting was called to order at 10:00 am at the Patrick Beaver Library. In attendance were Dianne Straley, Vince LeGrand, Bob Jones, Joe Pausa, John Bates, Barb Beck, Michele LeGrand, Adra Kryszczuk, Bob Wolgemuth, Monty Matthews, Shari Kidd, and Pam Moody. Absent: Pam Wagoner. The minutes of the January board meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Bob J. and a second by Bob W.

Vince gave the treasurer's report and told us that the bill from the lawyer for the club's incorporation had been received and paid. It was only \$800 rather than the expected \$1200. He told us that we have received dues payments from 66 members while we are still missing over 40. Since we always get new members during the year, Vince is not too worried about those who have not yet paid their dues and may not renew. The board may have to call and check on some of the members who have not paid to see if they plan to renew. Someone from the web team can disable a person's membership privileges online after non-payment by March 31.

Dianne brought up the concern that some members have questioned why single people pay the same dues as married members or households of two or three. The discussion focused on the difficulty of deciding what each person would pay in households where only one person in a couple is actively involved in Newcomers. It was decided that if a person had difficulty paying the annual dues, an exception could be made in that circumstance. The person would have to come to the board and ask for financial assistance. John made a motion, seconded by Adra, that dues stay the same as they currently are at \$30 per household. The motion passed unanimously.

Vince continued the financials by explaining the budget to us line by line and justifying each amount. Since the club is moving away from a "Gala" type event, the annual social event line item will be removed from the budget. The social/special event line item will be increased accordingly. John made a motion, seconded by Adra, that the budget be approved. The motion passed.

John told us that the second quarter charity, starting in April, will be the Hickory Soup Kitchen. Third quarter will be the Women's Resource Center, and the last quarter will be Cops for Tots. End of the fiscal year charities will be: Imagination Library, Bethlehem Food Pantry, and the Hickory Soup Kitchen. Each end of the year recipient will receive a check for \$200 and John will write a cover letter to go with the checks. John was very happy to announce that Joe Pausa will be taking over as the Charity chairperson.

Dianne reminded us that elections will be held at tomorrow's general meeting and the various candidates were mentioned again. Nominated are: Carol Hoover, president, Monty Matthews, vice-president, Vince LeGrand, treasurer, Pam Moody, secretary, and Dianne Straley, past president. Nominated for directors are: John Bates, Adra Kryszczuk, Shari Kidd, and Bob Jones. Dianne asked Joe to be in charge of counting ballots tomorrow and choosing two non-board members to help him.

Dianne asked if there were any volunteers to plan a St. Patrick's Day semi-potluck in March. There were not any takers at the meeting but she will ask the general membership tomorrow. Dianne told us that the speakers at the April general meeting will be John and Beth Keane who will do a presentation on hiking in our area with the assistance of Peg Baldwin who will be bringing her projector. A joint board meeting of old and new officers and directors will be held at the Garden of Eatin' on March 23 at 11:15 am. The club will pay for the lunches.

Other items that might be discussed by the new board are the following: revisiting the "membership process" document that was created in 2011, considering by-law changes as suggested by our attorney, updating the "Memberlist" form, and changing advertisers on the rate cards to be fair to all our advertisers.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.

Respectfully submitted:
Barb Beck
Secretary