

Board of Directors Meeting  
Newcomers of Catawba Valley  
February 23, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Club President Cathi Montgomery at 12:37 PM via Zoom. Aside from Cathi, present were: Vice President Rob Herman, Treasurer Kathy Rozea, Secretary Chris Beckom, Past President Delilah Bragg and Board Members Adra Kryszczuk, Nancy Geiger and Amy Chizen.

President: Cathi asked for the minutes of the January meeting to be approved. Motion to approve was made by Adra and seconded by Amy. Minutes were approved.

Vice President: Rob, who is out of town, was not aware of any new members this month. However, Adra said Deborah and Paul Nielsen had joined but had not paid dues yet awaiting decision of the board on how to handle their dues at this time of year in view of very little activities due to COVID. Later in the meeting, after much discussion, it was decided to abide by the current club by-laws and charge them regular dues of \$15.00 per member. A motion was made by Adra and seconded by Kathy to approve this decision. The Board unanimously voted to approve. The issue of dues for current members will be revisited in September.

Treasurer: Kathy asked for a valid address to send a check for the cash brought in for Toys for Tots in December. Cathi said she will contact Kevin McCutcheon to obtain the name and address for mailing the check. Kathy also said our financial balance is basically what it was last month.

Charity Coordinator: Nancy said she has had no further updates on members contributing to our first quarter charity, Exodus House, and will put another announcement about it in the upcoming Club newsletter. She questioned what the next quarter charity will be. Cathi said she will send information on past club sponsored charities to Nancy for review and asked Board members to also let Nancy know if they have recommendations. Habitat for Humanity was mentioned as a possible choice.

Special Events: Amy discussed the upcoming picnic in April for which she has a flyer ready to email to members. It will take place at Hilton Park on April 15<sup>th</sup> with a rain-day of April 16<sup>th</sup>. The picnic will start at noon. Members wanting to attend will be asked to bring their own lunch and to wear masks when not eating. A few games will be provided by the club and members can bring any they might want to play.

New Business: Cathi brought up a request from a member who asked if activities couldn't be started for members who have already been vaccinated. It was decided by discussion that we would not have activities that are not open to all members.

Rob spoke about club survival during COVID as we have been essentially shut down for almost a year and a discussion ensued about starting activities. After much talk between all Board members, it was decided to send out another survey to judge members feelings about this issue. Rob said he would devise the survey as he did last summer. Copies of the past survey will be emailed to Board members who are asked to review it and make any new suggestions by March 2. The proposed new survey will then be submitted to the Board for review by March 11<sup>th</sup>, and the survey will be sent to members by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Cathi will mention the upcoming survey in her column for the Club newsletter coming out soon.

Attracting New Members: Amy mentioned there are a lot of new residents in her neighborhood and wondered about giving them copies of our old Newsletters showing the scope of our Club and activities offered. After discussion it was decided that copies of Newsletters could be shown to prospective members if email addresses and phone numbers were blacked out.

Amy said she had contacted local Chambers of Commerce in the area about putting our Club informational rack cards in the different Chamber's facilities. She was told in each case this could happen only if the Club became a member of the Chamber for a yearly cost of \$125.00.

The subject of the Club having a Facebook page was initiated by Cathi. Adra said the Board had discussed it in the past and decided that setting up and maintaining the page would be too time consuming unless a member could be found who would be interested in this task. No further action taken at this time.

Cathi mentioned two websites for people in the Hickory area, "Life in the Hickory Bubble" on Facebook, and "Nextdoor Neighbors" where new members might be found. She said she will contact the administrator of Life in the Hickory Bubble to see if she could put in a paragraph about Newcomers of Catawba Valley possibly monthly. Adra said she can contact Nextdoor Neighbors for the same reason.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Beckom