

Minutes of Board Meeting  
Newcomers of Catawba County  
May 26, 2021

The meeting was called to order in the home of President Cathi Montgomery at 10:47 AM. Aside from Cathi, present were Vice President Rob Herman, Past President Delilah Bragg, Secretary Chris Beckom and Board Members Nancy Geiger and Amy Chizen. Treasurer Kathy Rosea and Board Member Adra Kryszczuk were absent.

President: There were no minutes of the April meeting to approve as there had not been a quorum present. However, notes were taken on topics discussed.

Many items were on the agenda to be discussed today; predominately the reopening of the Club since Covid closed activities in Spring of 2020. At this point our usual pre-covid venue for activities, the Hickory Airport is still limiting the numbers of attendees in their meeting room. Also, the Hickory Library where many of the Board and other meetings were held is limiting time in the meeting rooms to one hour as well as limiting the numbers of attendees. It is hoped that this will change in the near future.

Becoming attractive to younger new members such as the newly retired was discussed. As a way to do this more "active" activities were brought up, including hiking, boating, rafting, more physically active games like pickleball, and different board games, rather than just cards. It was suggested to call indoor venues for Pickleball to see if instructors are available.

Vice President: Rob said there were four new members in the past month, Smita Patel, Loretta and Frank Wells, Cyd Acolia and Martha Lord.

Rob discussed changes to the membership forms section that involves the new members interests. It was proposed to add boating, pickleball, and board games among other possibilities to the list. Also, instead of listing all the separate card games that are played, to make them sub-headings under just the title "cards". Lunch out will be changed to Lunch/Dinner out.

It was noted that the website address was incorrect on the Membership form, ending in ".com" instead of ".org". which will be corrected on the new form.

Rob said he will create a type of Activity Interest form to be handed out at the next General Meeting asking the members about any new activities, day trips, etc. they might be interested in or have had positive experiences with in the past.

An NCV Activity Schedule, previously sent out to new members, will not be sent at this time as activities are not currently being held. Instead, it will be suggested that new members look on the website for activities.

Treasurer: Kathy Rosea was absent: however, she had relayed to Cathi that she is working with Brenda Ireland, Sponsor Coordinator, on getting sponsor payments. Also, relayed that the bank balance is still around \$4,000. She and Adra Kryszczuk are working to obtain a refund on a payment for our mailbox that was made in error.

Charity Coordinator: Nancy said that the charity donations have been very slow due to no activities for members to submit donations in person. She suggested continuing Habitat for Humanity, Taylorsville, NC, through the next quarter with the hope that the club can do better for this worthwhile charity. A motion regarding this extension was made by Rob and seconded by Chris. The motion was passed by vote.

Activities: Sheri Binning has begun Coffee & Conversation again with the first outing this coming Friday, and Coordinator, Francine Gissy, has started up Lunch Out. Rob said Coordinators Jon Kaiser and Chris Almeida have been discussing restarting Team Cuisine but no time-line decision has been made. Adra Kryszczuk has been putting out feelers to the members regarding interest in starting card games again; last month there was very little interest, but she sent out another email this month. In order to get the rest of Club activities going, Cathi

and Rob agreed to personally call all of the Coordinators to ascertain their willingness and time-line to begin again.

Vacancies: As our Newsletter and Sponsor Coordinator, Brenda Ireland has put in her resignation for these posts for the end of summer. It was brought up by Delilah, that after first looking internally for a volunteer Newsletter Editor volunteer, that a possible thought might be to contact CVCC to see if a journalism major might be interested in creating the newsletter monthly for a fee.

Special Events: Coordinator Amy was planning a picnic at Tuttle State Park in Lenoir for June 4<sup>th</sup>, but found that the park is still closed. She thought it may open June 1<sup>st</sup>, but that would be too late to get information out to the members. She wants to do it early in the month due to impending higher summer temperatures. It was decided to possibly have it in early June at Hilton Park which is open.

Amy is planning a trip for members to the large Catawba River Antique Mall in Belmont, NC for June 11<sup>th</sup> with lunch to follow at Jekyll and Hyde Restaurant. Members to meet at the airport parking lot to carpool or drive alone as they wish.

Also being planned is a trip on Tuesday June 29<sup>th</sup> to Blowing Rock to walk up to the actual Blowing Rock for a cost of \$7.00 to see the view, then members would be free to shop or lunch for 2 hours before caravanning home.

She discussed a possible trip to the Billy Graham Museum and Gardens later in the year.

Amy said she had been trying to get in touch with Kathy Durand, Crawdads Baseball Coordinator regarding games this year but has not had a reply from her.

The Pontoon Party has been put off till September.

Delilah said she had read about a tour of a Forensic Lab in Winston-Salem which sounded interesting to all present and will be investigated for a possible future outing.

President: The next General Meeting will be held June 9<sup>th</sup>. Cathi said she will ask Sharon Snelling to check for availability at the Airport meeting room and check any limits as to attendees. There will be no speaker for this meeting, just a review of Club finances by the Treasurer, the 50/50 raffle, and talking about opening up the club. There will be a Members Sharing type segment during which members can talk about activities they might like or places they have been that might be of interest to the club for future events.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Beckom  
Secretary