

Newcomers of Catawba Valley General Meeting

February 10, 2016

President Dianne Straley called the meeting to order at 10:42 am at the Hickory Airport and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January general meeting. A motion was made by Vince LeGrand and seconded by Bob Wolgemuth and the minutes were approved unanimously.

John Bates introduced Jane Bowers, the Executive Director of the Humane Society of Catawba County, and her friend Spunky the dog! Jane moved to the Hickory area from the UK in 2001 and is a former Newcomer president. Jane told us that the Humane Society is a no kill shelter that adopted out 2000 pets in 2015. They are a local organization and are not affiliated with any national groups. They are always looking for volunteers who can work a few hours or more per month.

The 50/50 raffle was held and Bob Wolgemuth was the winner of \$21. The \$22 went to the Humane Society and several Newcomer members also made donations. Vince LeGrand gave the treasurer's report and told us that the month of January started with a balance of \$2578.86, income for advertising was \$70, miscellaneous was \$55, and \$1300 was collected for dues for the upcoming fiscal year. Expenses were \$29.22 for advertising, hospitality, and socials. This left a balance at \$3974.64 as of January 31. Vince reminded the group to get their dues in soon because dues are \$25 a year per household until March 31 but will be \$30 after that date.

Dianne told us that annual election of officers and directors will take place at the general meeting on March 9. She read off the slate of candidates and told us that anyone who wishes to run can still volunteer. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the March 9 meeting, but the nominee's okay must have been secured before mentioning him/her. The voting will be by secret ballot and will be one vote per membership. On another topic, Dianne asked the group for names of restaurants in the area that have "good deals" on certain days of the week. She would like to compile and publish a list of this information.

During Open Mic, Susan Turner asked the board to consider having a different dues rate for those members who are single. Dianne said that the board will bring that up for discussion again. Suzie and Monty Matthews told us about the trip that the Hickory Landmarks Society will be taking to Jonesboro, TN on March 26. Barb Beck talked about the Writers Series at LR and mentioned that tickets for both Garrison Keillor and Anne LaMott will be required. Tickets can be picked up starting March 7.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30. The next board meeting will be held on February 24 and the next general meeting will be March 9.

Submitted by:
Barb Beck
Secretary