

Newcomers of Catawba Valley General Meeting

March 9, 2016

President Dianne Straley called the meeting to order at 10:47 am at the Hickory Airport and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February general meeting. A motion was made by Adra Kryszczuk and seconded by Eric Koch and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Joe Paussa introduced new members Jon and Sharon Snellings who recently moved here from Maryland. Dianne told us that the election of officers would take place and introduced all candidates who were present. One person from each membership was allowed to cast a vote and the group was told that write-in candidates or motions from the floor were acceptable. While the votes were being counted, table groups came up with some ideas for future activities and speakers (see attached). Ideas were then shared with the entire group. All candidates on the ballot were elected and Dianne thanked Carole Reising and the nominating committee for all their hard work.

John Bates told the group that March was the last month for the Catawba Humane Society to be charity of the month and told us that the following three organizations would be our end of the 2015-2016 year charities and each receive \$200: The Imagination Library, the Mt. Pisgah/Bethlehem Food Pantry, and the Hickory Soup Kitchen. John explained the rotation of charities and mentioned that Joe Paussa would be the new charity chairperson. John Bates and Beverly Forrest were thanked for their hard work as this year's charity heads. The group was reminded that links to all our charities appear on our website and it is important to tell any of these advertisers that we found their information on the Newcomers website.

Brian Hoover told us again that each Newcomer member must establish a password to get into the closed area of the website. If a member is having problems with this, Brian is very willing to help out with any issues. Members have the option to add more personal information to their entries if they so choose.

The 50/50 raffle was held and Bev Forrest was the winner of \$26. The same amount will go to the Humane Society. Vince discussed the financial report and talked about the budget that was approved by the board. He reminded members to renew their dues by March 31 at the rate of \$25 for the year or pay \$30 after that date to renew. We still have approximately 40 memberships that have not been renewed. Starting balance for February 1 was \$3974.64, receipts for dues and miscellaneous was \$211.00, expenses for the month were \$923.00 which included taking money from three funds to pay the \$800 for our lawyer for the incorporation, which left a balance of \$3262.64 as of February 29.

Dianne told the membership that John and Beth Keane would be talking about hiking at the general meeting in April. She then asked the membership if they had any information for Open Mic. A number of local events were mentioned.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30. The next board meeting will be held on March 23 at the Garden of Eatin' and the next general meeting will be on April 13.

Submitted by:
Barb Beck
Secretary