

**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION  
GREATER KANSAS CITY CHAPTER**

Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting, May 4, 2004

Meeting was called to order by President Jay Sjerven at 5:30 pm.

Board members present were Anab Abulahi, James Everett, Fadhel Kaboub, Donald McClain, Manuel Pardo, Manny Pedram, , Stephen Shaw, Jay Sjveren, John Slattery, LouAnn Stahl, Sheldon Stahl, Peter Stauffacher, Karen Vorst, Willadee Wehmeyer, Karin Winn, and Harriette Yeckel.

Minutes of Board meeting of March 2, 2004 were approved as written.

**REPORTS:**

- 1) Jay Sjerven reported the results of the April 19, 2004 UNA-GKC event focusing on the World Food Program. Attendance was good and \$391 was raised for the benefit of the WFP. Jay noted that we have now established a second annual event for the Chapter and conveyed thanks to the Church for hosting the event. He suggested that as long as the USDA conference is held in Kansas City each April, the Chapter can continue the event. The members of the Board commended Jay for his work on planning this event.
- 2) Fadhel Kaboub reported on the activities on the UMKC Model UN. He noted that George Aldaya (USDA) gave a presentation to the UMKC group as part of the April event and there were approximately 30 Model UN members present. Kaboub also noted that the UMKC Model UN Club will receive funding from the Chancellor's fund next year to support their activities.

Johnson County Community College sent their Model UN group to the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting (see point 1 above) and their group also went to the NMUN in New York City.

Park University conducted a high school teachers' training session. In the training session a mock-debate was conducted. Jay Sjerven attended this session and reported favorably on it.

- 3) Jay presented a proposal for a regional UNA meeting to be held in at the Truman Presidential Library in Independence, MO on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Jay has discussed this event with Katy Hansen. Jim Everett suggested that the Kauffman Center facility in Kansas City might be available and said he would find out more details on this. A conference call will be conducted by Katy Hansen on May 18<sup>th</sup> and Jay will share the content of the conference call with the Board.

- 4) Jay announced *The People Speak 2004* program initiated by the UN Foundation and distributed a letter from Timothy E. Wirth, UN Foundation and William Luers, UNA-USA, dealing with the specifics of the program. The time period for the program is September 12 – September 30, 2004. Jay asked if the Board members present were in favor of UNA-GKC’s participation. LouAnn suggested that the membership be consulted regarding interest. Jay suggested that perhaps one or two people from the IRC, People-to-People, and UNA-GKC might get together to talk about putting a grant proposal together. LouAnn, Sheldon, and Peter will work on this.
  
- 5) Jay announced that the venue for the Mayor’s UN Day Dinner is the Adam’s Mark Hotel in Independence, MO. The date for the dinner is October 14, 2004. The speaker for the event is Ado Vaher, Canadian Director of UN Affairs and Public Relations. Vaher is also associated with UNICEF. His educational background is in economics and he has worked with the World Bank. Vaher’s remarks will center on the functions of UNICEF and how UNICEF’s mission has changed over the years. Sheldon reported that he has received 2 nominations for WCA—Jody Edgerton and Sherry Kirkpatrick. He said that he anticipates another nomination for Mr. and Mrs. Jim Stoerrs (Jack Jonathan will be the author of the Stoerrs nomination).
  
- 6) Don McClain presented the Treasurer’s report. For the period ending April 30, 2004, the balances reported were as follows:

General Fund.....	\$3,281.93
Peace Plaza Fund.....	\$4,219.25
Truman Heartland Fund.....	\$1,011.97

No questions were raised regarding the report and it was accepted by the Board.

- 7) Jay noted that the Board currently has two standing committees on the books: Education and Outreach. These committees, he said, need to be reinvigorated.  
  
Jay said that he had written two letters to the editor of the Kansas City Star and one had been published. He suggested that all Board members need to be on the lookout for opportunities to counter false statements regarding the UN.
  
- 8) Jim Everett reported that he is still struggling to get the Peace Plaza Fund to the \$75,000-\$85,000 level. He had recently written a \$25,000 grant application and sent it to the Ted Turner at the UN Foundation. He had talked with Gillian Sorensen about this and asked her to assist in getting the application to Turner’s desk. Jim also reported that there are 500 bricks available for purchase. Lastly, Jim reported that the new presiding bishop of the Community of Christ Church is not keeping up the promise to give perpetual care to the landscaping at the Plaza. Jim will meet with him on May 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the issue of landscaping.

- 9) Karen Vorst asked for articles for the newsletter. The upcoming issue will include an article dealing with the April 19<sup>th</sup> event. She solicited input from the Model UNs in the area. Jim suggested reprinting letters to the editor (KC Star and Independence Examiner). Harriette suggested that misconceptions about the UN be included along with announcements dealing with the July 17<sup>th</sup> event and the Mayor's UN Day Dinner.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Next Board Meeting is July 6, 2004 in Brookside Room at UMKC Administrative Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Sjerven at 7:15 p.m.