

**FRIENDS OF TORRANCE EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETES**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 5, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Morrie Rice. Those present were Morrie and Cheryl Rice, Elmer and Adrian Bleidistel, Barbara Zelin, Karen Geyer, Kerry Ryerson, Lee Altenes, and Carol Schreiner. Elmer moved the minutes be approved as read and Kerry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Morrie asked for suggestions for future Board members. The names that were suggested were Angi Bugg, Jill Wilkes, and Gus Martinez. We hope that others will come forward and express an interest in serving on the Board, or on committees.

Lee gave the Treasurer's report. The Walkathon brought in over \$8500. The past fiscal year, July 2011 to June, 2012, we have received about \$6300 in donations, mainly from service clubs, as well as in memory of Bobby Fick. Our current balance on hand is \$15,086.

Karen reported on the Walkathon. It was very successful, all the volunteers did a good job, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Kerry moved the meeting be adjourned, Barbara seconded it, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM to begin the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrian Bleidistel, Secretary

**FRIENDS OF TORRANCE EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETES  
ANNUAL MEETING**

June 5, 2012

President Morrie Rice called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:06 PM. All members of the Board were present. Morrie welcomed all those attending. He began by stating our purpose, which is to raise funds for our Special Needs athletes' sports programs.

The Board each introduced themselves, and then those attending the meeting also introduced themselves, along with their athletes who were also present.

Morrie recapped our activities of the past year. We put on the fall picnic with some help from Special Olympics. Our most significant event was our support of the Sports Festival in April. We provided the food for the athletes, volunteers, and coaches, as well as the medals and uniform shirts for the Torrance athletes. We have enough medals for one or two more tournaments. We have a web site which Cheryl keeps current. We have Scott Creamer, who set up the site and keeps it operating. We pay a fee to Scott, since none of us has that expertise.

Morrie talked about our restaurant fundraisers. Not a lot of money comes in from these, but having our name out there is valuable. Our most successful one was the "Pass the Boot" at Sully's. We had a great turnout and it was a lot of fun. The firefighters were the servers and worked very hard for us. Sully's also had a golf tournament to benefit Friends of Torrance Exceptional Athletes. We received \$615 from that tournament. There was also a

Torrance Fireman in Dancing with the Stars in South Bay who named us as his charity and we received \$500 from that event.

We opened the meeting to questions from those attending. Debbie Beckett wishes we had more media coverage in the Daily Breeze. Barbara explained that she has contacted the Breeze a number of times, but they do not seem to be interested in covering any of our activities. Debbie will contact the Breeze and see if she can get any results.

Bobbye Amadio wanted to know our relationship to Special Olympics. Morrie explained that we supplement Special Olympics. If they have discontinued a sport that our athletes are interested in, such as cycling and snowshoeing, Torrance provides that sport. Special Olympics helped provide water and other things for our fall picnic. We do not compete with Special Olympics, we compliment them. Most of our athletes compete in both Special Needs sports and Special Olympics. Our Special Needs athletes need to join PALS in order to be covered by Torrance insurance.

There was discussion on the need to get the information out about our Special Needs sports program. We would like to see more athletes come out for our sports. It is difficult to work through the schools and Regional Centers. We would appreciate ideas from our participating families.

We encouraged everyone to look at our website – [torrea.org](http://torrea.org) to read about us, our programs, and to see pictures of our athletes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrian Bleidistel, Secretary