

FRIENDS OF TORRANCE EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETES

BOARD MEETING

October 15, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM by President Morrie Rice. Members present were Morrie Rice, Adrian Bleidistel, Lee Altenes, Carol Schreiner, Kerry Ryerson, Angi Bugg, Marcy Good, and Joel Massa. Absent was Cheryln Rice. Also present was Phil Duthie, our Torrance liaison, Bob Chiota, and former board members, Elmer Bleidistel and Karen Geyer.

The minutes were approved as read.

Morrie talked about our fundraiser at the California Pizza Kitchen on October 24th. One e-mail has already been sent out to our e-mail list. Joel stated that the Torrance Tribune has said it would run an article on it when it receives the article. More information will be sent out in the coming week. The last e-mail will be sent out on Wednesday, October 23rd.

Gus Martinez has volunteered to post fundraising events on the LAPD newsletter. It won't be the CPK fundraiser because he needs to get it approved 60 days before the event. However, he will post our fundraiser at the Comedy and Magic Club in April.

Morrie would like us to keep in contact with the Torrance Fire Department. Karen said Barbara Zelin, who has been our contact, still talks with the firemen's association, and she is sure Barbara will continue to contact them for us.

Lee has a high school friend who has opened a Facebook account for us. We need someone to continue this page as this student will soon be through with school and leaving. Angi

volunteered her daughter, Jessica, to work on the Facebook page for us.

Morrie wants to work with the Rotary Club to set up a timeline for the fundraiser at the Comedy and Magic Club. The timeline would set up actual tickets sales, payment schedules to the Club, preparation for tickets as holiday gifts, and so on. Phil mentioned the Kick-Off Dinner comes in March, a month prior, and is an opportunity to sell tickets. The athletes will not be asked to sell tickets. Morrie will maintain a list of ticket sellers. He will ask people about selling tickets and how many they think they can sell, etc. Kerry said the Rotary Club will set up a specific website for ordering tickets.

Lee gave the treasurer's report. Our total cash on hand at the end of September was \$31,096.47. Less the appropriated funds leaves us with \$14,259.49 in the bank. Bob Chiota gave Lee \$8.00 that was donated at the Health Fair, and \$10.00 donated by a Bocce friend.

Marcy is composing the donation letter to be sent out before the Christmas holidays. She will give it to Morrie as soon as she has finished writing it.

There was discussion about our website and donations. PayPal's transaction fee is 2.2% plus \$.30 up to \$100,000. Simple general "Donate now" button will take Scott, our webmaster, about two hours to set up. We would, of course, pay him for his time. His rate to us is \$35 an hour. There was more discussion on how to allow people to donate online. There are several ways to do this. Lee mentioned the bank will also arrange for donations to come in and go directly to our account. Lee will talk to the bank regarding fees.

Karen questioned how we can get more families to go to the website. Discussion followed. We want to make our website address known and encourage parents and athletes to go to it for information and to see the athletes' pictures at the various sports.

Phil reported on the City Liaison Committee's meeting with John Jones. John would like us to have at least \$25,000 before he would talk about beginning work on the Bocce Courts. Morrie explained to John how our organization is set up and what the by-laws state. We basically just raise money and turn it over to the city. Morrie suggested that since the city is building soccer fields at Columbia Park, perhaps the equipment could remove the asphalt on our proposed bocce courts. There will be more meetings with John Jones to discuss FTEA interests. The meeting was very cordial.

It is time for our new budget. Lee said web fees, P.O. Box rent, and other fees were not in last year's budget. Lee asked Phil to prepare his list of what he needs this next year. Some sports, such as swimming, want to have a fundraiser just for swimming. Morrie stated he prefers to have fundraising efforts benefit the general fund.

Morrie asked if anyone knew the number, sizes, and colors of the shirts that Linda wants for the special needs sports. Karen will find out for us.

Joel would like us to have business cards for the board members. Angi agreed. Morrie asked Lee to put this in the new budget.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, November 19th. Kerry will request the use of a meeting room again at Harbor Regional Center. Carol moved the meeting be adjourned, Kerry seconded it, the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Adrian Bleidistel,
Secretary**