

AFRETECH AID SOCIETY

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

JUNE 25 2005

Attendance – Kwawu Agbemeru, Donn Aven, Barb Aven, Lauchlin Johnston, Diane Keats, Bruce McLeod, Bonnie Sutherland, Don Sutherland, Jim Sutherland, Toby Mundy, Kevin Mackie, Sarah Nicholls, Marg Fletcher, Dave Fletcher, Sandra Harper, Wayne Crossen, Geoff Ridden, Jacque Boyd, Mary MacDonald, Brenda Benedetti,

Regrets – Caryl Koe.

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
 - **Moved – Donn Aven**
 - **Seconded – Sarah Nicholls** **Carried**

2. **Adoption of the minutes of the 2003 AGM**
 - **Moved –Sandra Harper**
 - **Seconded – Don Sutherland** **Carried**

3. **Introduction of attendees**

4. **President's Report – Bonnie reported that this has been a transition and expansion year. There has been more people involved with the organization and Bonnie is comfortable with where we are. Some highlights are:**
 - ◇ **Toby and Bonnie went to Africa in July 2004 and had productive meetings with Sr. Officials including the Mayor of Nairobi.**
 - ◇ **Bonnie did a presentation to Delta Council. As a result the Optimist did an article on Afretech.**
 - ◇ **Fedex called and put Afretech on their list for computers**
 - ◇ **A strong relationship has been formed with Rotary.**
 - ◇ **Afretech, Rotary, and Kwantlen University College have signed a memorandum of Understanding.**
 - ◇ **North Delta Rotary have committed to sending one shipment a year to Africa.**

5. **Vice President's Report – Toby felt it has been a productive year.**
 - ◇ **A shipment has been sent off to Ghana.**
 - ◇ **More computers are ready for shipment. Thanks to Kevin Mackie and Seaquam for helping to get the computers ready.**
 - ◇ **Toby went to Imbale, Kenya in July 2004 to set up the computer lab. There were 12 computers not functioning on arrival. After 2 weeks there were only 4 not working. Support and follow-up later by Geoff and Jacquie.**
 - ◇ **Inservice – students picked it up in ½ a day. They started with the mouse to work on hand/eye coordination. Teachers took 2 days because they were intimidated by the computers.**

- ◇ Books were well received and were in high demand. They were so popular that the Principal had to set a limit of 1 book/student/week.
 - ◇ Delta Schools are donating their culls and have offered Science texts and ESL materials. The District will be able to service a number of locations.
 - ◇ The new Delta Superintendent John Anderson is very enthusiastic - “global” education responsibility.
6. Treasurer’s Report – see attached report.
 Moved: Marg Fletcher: seconded Bruce McLeod that the Treasurer’s report be accepted as circulated.
7. November 2004 Kenya and Zimbabwe In-Service. Jacque Boyd did a power point presentation.
8. Imbale– a power point video presentation showing the computer lab in Imbale.
9. Rotary World Help Network – Wayne Crossen reported on this non-profit organization that is working out of Riverview Hospital. They send medical equipment and supplies to Africa and are working with Afretech.
10. United States Afretech – incorporation granted in November 2003 as a beginning to achieving Charity status.
11. Western University College of Science and Technology – have received a shipment of 145 cartons of books for their library.
- ◇ Langley Rotary helping to set up a science and computer labs in Rotary High School in Kenya. Afretech has sent some computers and more are to follow. They are also in need of Science books which Afretech can supply.
 - ◇
12. New Projects –
- ◇ Kwawu spoke of the computers send to his elementary school in Ghana for their 50th anniversary. Kwawu went to the head of Kwantlen and asked if he could send their old computers over to his old school. They donated 38 computer and put him in contact with Bonnie for help with shipping etc. More computers were acquired and soon there were over 70 needing to be shipped. Accra Rotary was the local contact as well as the Rotary in the port city of Tema. Forty computers were sent to Kwawu’s elementary school, Keta, and 30 were sent to Ho, an all-girls school. Tema Rotary were able to get the port duties waived and got media (print and TV) coverage of the project. As a result a request came from the head mistress of a school 15 miles from Keta and they are setting up a central computer lab to service three schools. There are 300 cartons of books and 70 computers ready for them when they have a secure facility.
 - ◇ Chura –wants to put together a 20 computer lab for the district as a centennial project. This could be done in conjunction with “Computer for Schools -Kenya”. The Mayor of Nairobi wants 30 computers for a “Street Kids Centre”.

- ◇ **WUCST – on the western border of Kenya is a potential centre for a P3 project. This could centre link all the school with internet access. It would have to be done with satellite communication as the land lines are in poor condition. The idea is to make a self sustaining program in partnership with a private company so the computer grads can be employed locally. Geoff’s company G7 would outsource operations to Africa for its customers. This would require 2 communication satellites and a monthly cost of \$1000 - \$2000 per month to run. The university and schools would use the system during the daytime hours and the after midnight hours would be for business purposes. Employees could reside at WUCST. Geoff will be making a proposal to HSBC in Sept to see they are interested.**

13. Storage – Hellings Elementary has been reorganized to make room for more books from Delta School District.

14. Funding Sources – funds have been received from R. R. Smith Foundation, BCTF Retired Teachers and Rotary. Time must now be spent writing grant proposals. Sarah has offered to help Bonnie this.

15. Publicity

- ◇ **rack cards need to be redesigned.**
- ◇ **Web site needs to be redone with currant and updated data on a regular basis.**
- ◇ **SFU wants to do an article on Afretech and Bonnie for The Peak. Sarah will write the article.**

**16. Elections – President – Bonnie Sutherland
Vice President – Toby Mundy
Secretary – Barb Aven
Treasurer – Donn Aven
Directors – Mike Lawler
Bruce McLeod
Geoff Ridden
Jacquie Boyd
Lynda Turner
Sarah Nicholls**

17. Other business:

- a. **barcode scanner – would cost \$600 -\$800 and would make the labeling of boxes easier for shipment and at customs. Toby suggested that since equipment may not be compatible a shipping label would have to be printed too.**
- b. **Scholarships for Students in Africa – donations can be made through Rotary with tax receipts available.**

Moved by a member that the meeting be adjourned.