

**Schutz American Schools of Alexandria Foundation (SASAF)
Annual Membership Meeting**

**September 29, 2019
Conference Call**

Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Clark at 4:55 p.m. Eastern time.

Review and Approval of the Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of July 14, 2018 were approved as submitted.

President's Report to the Membership

As this is our first SASAF membership meeting being done via conference call, Paul reminded everyone that at our July 14, 2018 Membership Meeting in Portland, Oregon, by show of hands, the proposal to henceforth hold reunions every other year was approved. This meant that the next reunion would be in 2020. Our by-laws call for an annual membership meeting, hence this conference call.

Paul noted that our organization is healthy. The fund-raising outcome from last year was excellent. You will recall that last year we had a major "challenge" grant of \$2,000. The response to match the grant was outstanding. We received just under \$2,895. Total donations for 2018 tallied just over \$9,000, including \$4,500 from an anonymous donor to help finance the 2018 Oregon reunion. This indicates that people are willing to contribute when they know there is a need. The fundraising will be necessary to keep us where we need to be. The Board is grateful that we had such a good response to fundraising and will determine the time of the next challenge fundraising appeal.

We will continue with annual donation appeals for the George and Mary Lou Meloy Scholarship so the membership will be hearing something on that appeal before the end of 2019.

An email was sent to all members asking for annual dues and with instructions for how to do so using Pay Pal. Once this is set up, it becomes automatic and you receive an annual reminder. It is the easiest way for us to count on dues coming in. We are getting a response to the notice. Since sending the email, Sue reported that three people have signed up to use Pay Pal and Steve received 6 checks.

Paul suggested a goal of 100 individuals to pay dues. This would cover our annual expenses. He also proposed setting a target for 2020 to increase from 20 to 50 people who are auto-paying dues.

Board Elections

The Board has two seats expiring in 2019: Tina Sharif and Deb Martin. Paul invited nominations for the four-year term. Bill Pollock nominated Deb. Deb is happy to step down yet agreed to remain on the board with our thanks. The membership voted Deb Martin to serve a second term.

Paul noted that the board members are enthusiastic and worked well together. He is pleased with how things are going. Paul plans to remain as Board President for the foreseeable future yet would like to pass this position on.

2020 Reunion

Plans for the 2020 reunion are moving forward. We will be gathering at Emerald Isle in North Carolina from May 10-17. Some members might want to attend for the full week while others may want to attend for the usual Thursday through Saturday activities. An announcement with details will be posted by the end of October. We are hoping for a good turnout.

Other Business

Paul then declared that the floor was open for discussion.

We wanted to share about the passing of Tony Cordahi. His contributions to Schutz were numerous as was his positive influence on so many of our lives. More information and with his wife Ruth Holmes' address is forthcoming. We do hope to find ways to commemorate Tony at our 2020 reunion. Paul said that he will send a note to Ruth Holmes.

Paul shared that he might look into getting Andre to the reunion for a possible book discussion.

The Annual Membership meeting was adjourned at 5:10 Eastern Time

NOTES SPECIFIC TO THE REUNION

Housing Decisions (Below are all of the issues I recall being raised regarding housing.)

Homes

- Beach front
- Second row

- Family Option: Families can rent a home for the week. There will be information on the registration form for an Emerald Isle rental contact person. Families are asked to deal directly with this person.

Time

- Whole week
- Partial week

Rooms

- Multiple
- Double
- Single

Reunion Discussion

Ed asked if we were going to ask everyone what they want. Susan shared that filling up each house before moving on is very important and the cost would be raised. How can we offer preferences without raising the cost? If someone wants a whole beach house for their family that is fine. If they do, we can send a list of homes from which they can select. We don't want to set this up as a vacation planning agency. It is important to know if people want to come for the whole week or not. Then there is the issue of rooming. We will need to be flexible. The kind of people we work with are going to be flexible. Go into it with a strategy yet with great flexibility.

What type of bed is also a question as is how many beds are in the room? We need to start getting feedback at first and then work from there. We can then compile and study the information. Susan suggested doing a simple survey

Ed asked if we are open to extended family attending. The answer is yes.

Want to move quickly so that we can get the desired homes.

It is important to let people know when the specific activities are over the long weekend.