



**FEDERAL EXPRESS RETIREE CLUB
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

Thursday May 28, 2009

9:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

**Berlin Room, WTC-FedEx
Collierville, TN**

Attendees:

Karl Birkholz	Ken Pfohl	Roger Albee
Jean Ward-Jones	Will Roberson	Judy Hill
Lois Hobby-Clayton	Mary Chiozza	
Arun Kulkarni		

Members Absent: Aaron Werbin, Martha Thomas, Margie Collins

President Karl Birkholz called the meeting to order. Mary presented the minutes from the April meeting of the Board of Directors and moved that they be approved. Ken seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mary gave Aaron's treasurer report in his absence (see report below). Our total assets are \$48,896.49. Arun moved that the financial report be approved. Lois seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Old Business:

- Filling vacant Board of Director Positions - Arthur J. Benjamin still needs to be contacted by Martha to see if he is interested in taking on the Membership Committee position. Since Martha was absent from meeting, the minutes will serve as a reminder for her to do this.

New Business:

- A motion was made and seconded that the FedEx Retiree Club would pay the cost for several members or their designees to play golf in the fund raiser for WWII Forever Young golf tournament.
- Ken reported that our Chaplain's Care Committee member, Will Roberson, had received an award from the Memphis V.A. hospital administration for his volunteer work at the facility. Ken was able to capture a picture of Will accepting the award from Mary Kay Pittman and presented the framed photograph to him at this month's Board meeting.
- The cost of the Hoptel rooms has been finalized. - The cost of a single room is \$4,000 and the cost of a double room is \$8,000. This means that the \$3,500 we've designated as our contribution to the project will not even cover a single room. Roger moved to increase the funding amount to \$4,000. Jean seconded the motion and all approved. Ken will get with Aaron as soon as Aaron returns to town and provide the V.A. with the check.
- Ken is getting the final answers to the questions Jean has asked for so that she can develop the Brochure for the Hoptel donor program. It will be used to help "sell" the remaining rooms and auxiliary items needed to fully equip the facility
- Karl asked Ken and Jean to develop a timeline for producing the Brochure for the Brochure.

- Demonstration of Website to members at one of our luncheons. - Karl asked Judy if she could do a presentation of our website to our members at one of our luncheons. He asked her to logon to the site and give them a brief tour. Judy agreed but cautioned that we need to be sure that what we show is current information. She pointed out that some of the discount information still hasn't been verified as still being offered. However, she said showing the members the website was something she would do and suggested that we show them the Chaplain's page.
- Field Trips for Members – Ken brought up a couple of proposals for Field trips for the members. One proposal is to rent transportation and take a group on a visit to the wineries that are in the mid-south area. A second proposal was to take a trip to Coon Creek Science Center located in rural McNairy County, Tennessee. Here is one of the most important fossil sites in North America. Acquired by the Memphis Museum System in 1988, this property contains a treasure lode of superbly preserved Upper Cretaceous marine shells and vertebrate remains left there 70 million years ago when the water of the Gulf of Mexico receded. Ken will pursue planning these trips.
- Le Bonheur Children's Medical center through a partnership with FedEx will build the FedEx Family House, the first facility to provide housing for families of patients receiving extended care at the medical center. Ground breaking for this facility will be June 22. They have invited Karl and 3 to 4 FERC members to come for the ground breaking ceremony. He will send the Board members the information as to place and time.
- Roger reported that Parmasters has developed two very good deals for our club membership. The full access deal is Monday – Saturday anytime play for \$92.65 per month. The more economical deal is Monday – Friday with full access to simulators, locker room and exercise room for \$46.96/month less an additional 15% discount. If you sign up for a full year, paying monthly, you will also get free golf lessons. He will have flyers at our next membership meeting and will provide Jean information for the next Newsletter.
- Roger asked if we had some legal counsel he could contact to review our current advertisement contract. He is hoping to amend our current contract to a simpler version. He was told to give the contract to Ken to take to Skip Carnell for review.
- Roger was asked by Jean to contact Wealth Solutions to see if they are going to sign the advertising contract and pay for their ad in the Newsletter. She has tried many times to obtain both by the deadline, which is now passed, May 15th. Judy also said that she hasn't received any money from them for their ad on the website so is taking it off on June 1st if she hasn't heard anything from them. Roger will follow up.

Treasurer's Report: Aaron Werbin

The Non-Profit tax form for FY2007-2008 was filed on May 13, 2009 by Aaron. The taxes for FY2008-2009 will be due at the end of this month. Jimmy Dickey, CPA, helped us with the filing and didn't charge us for the work he did.

The Treasurer's Report covers the period 4/23/09 through 5/23/09

Balance in Checking Acct. 4/23/2009	=	\$11,667.70
Major Deposits for May	=	3,136.00
Major Expenses for May	=	<u>1,982.21</u>
Ending FERC Bank Balance	=	\$12,821.49
FERC Investment Account Balance 5/19	=	31,286.00

FECA Account Entertainment Books* 5/15	=	4,789.00
Total FERC Assets	=	<u>\$48,896.49</u>

* \$80 dollars collected but isn't included yet.

Finance & Audit: Arun Kulkarni

Arun reported that the balance in the FERC Investment Account as of yesterday stands at \$31,464. Our investment account has increased about \$2,500 from its lowest point in March due to market recovery.

Information/Technology Committee: Judy Hill

Status Update:

- Posted March Minutes to website.
- The May Newsletter for Morgan Keegan has been posted.
- Changes for luncheon were made.

Website Maintenance:

- The April web maintenance invoice was \$130.00
- The May web maintenance invoice is still open.
- Made the following changes to website:
 - Added FedEx Retirement Service Center telephone number to home page.
 - Added Icon on Sponsor page to highlight information about advertising with FERC.
 - Deleted FEECA information on discount page.
 - Highlighted information on membership page and made separated pages for members and non-members.
 - Removed Arun's advertising.
 - Increased Morgan Keegan advertisement size.
 - Jane Robbins worked with me on getting benefit information to our website. The link <https://fedex.ehr.com> was provided to us from Benefits and FERC is linked directly to it. You must be enrolled in FedEx Health insurance to have a login.
 - A question arose concerning retirees 65 or older whose spouse and or dependents are still enrolled in the FedEx Health plan. Will they continue to have access to the site established by FedEx? Judy will investigate.

Information:

- Morgan Keegan increased advertisement on our website from \$175 to \$350.
- Judy worked Dewayne from Morgan Keegan to bring his website ad into compliance with his company standards. He said M.K. also wanted to advertise in our next Newsletter but needed to know the size of a half page ad.
- Jean will give Roger the size associated with a half page ad.
- Roger will contact Dewayne and work out a contract with him for advertising in our Newsletter.
- See discussion below in Communications on Newsletter

Items for Discussion:

- Ken asked Judy to change the title of the Chaplain’s page to the Padre’s Pad.
- Judy said that she had gotten a question from a member as to why we didn’t have FedEx Retiree Club as a group on Facebook. After discuss the Board members agreed that we should NOT do that because we have our own forum on our website and we need to promote that as our “social networking” site.

Membership Committee: Martha Thomas Interim Membership Committee Chairman

(This report includes activity from April 21 through May 26, 2009)

We received \$234.00 dues from 8 new members.

We received \$1404.00 dues from 54 renewals.

We received 17 new membership applications during this period.

Current Membership Statistics

Paid Memphis Members (MM+MMS)	327	+6
Paid Satellite Members (SM+SMS)	432	+2
Paid Associate Members (AM)	5	
Paid Members at Large (MAL)	15	
Honorary Members (HM)	1	
News only (senior officers)	<u>31</u>	
Total Members	811	+8

New/Pending Applications	22
Memphis	7
Satellite	15

Applicants Receiving Final Invoice 0

Archived Members	957	-3
Memphis	358	
Satellite	599	-3

Luncheon Committee: Lois Hobby-Clayton

Lois heard no complaints associated with our May luncheon. We brought in \$1,134.00 from 82 diners. We had one speaker for a total of 83 for lunch. We owe Memphis Nat’l \$1,162.00 based on 83 meals. She needs to get a “Bio” on Larry Cox who is our June speaker. Karl suggested she contact Shelby County.

<u>Reserved by</u>	<u>Number Reserved</u>	<u>Actual Attendance</u>
Check	1	1
Phone	24	27
Web	57	56
At the Door		0
Guests**	2	1
No Shows*		-2
Total	84	83
Meals Requested	75	

Number Reserved After Deadline	14	
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*How No Shows registered = 1 by web; 1 by phone.

**Pat Halloran, President of the non-profit organization The Orpheum.

Additional Notes

1st Time Visitors = Nigel Bowen (new member).

Perspective Members = NONE.

Hasn't Been in Awhile = Ron & Libby Murphy, Connie Lampen, & Madan Birla.

Out of Town Visitors = NONE.

Special Guests = NONE.

Merchandising Committee: Margie Collins

Total Sales – May 2009 \$125.00

Petty Cash on Hand - \$40.00

Margie submitted the inventory report to the Board electronically.

Communications Committee: Jean Ward-Jones

The newsletter was approved today and should be in the mail by first of next week.

Jean reported that she didn't have anyone in mind for the "Retirees and Their Passions" article for the next newsletter and needed some ideas. She said that she thought it might be a good time to interview Joe, Tom and Richard and find out how they are using their Ham radio expertise they've acquired through the classes Joe has conducted. Karl suggested that she might also interview some of the veterans who have taken the class to get another perspective. Other suggestions were to contact long time retirees like Ed Carnes and Harry Brown and interview them about their lives. These retirees have had many experiences both before retirement and afterwards.

With the discussion above about Morgan Keegan wanting to advertise in our Newsletter by buying a half page ad, Jean brought up that the size requested will reduce the overall space for our content. She will contact Central Imaging to find out the cost associated with increasing our Newsletter to the next larger size and the cost of decreasing it to the next smaller size. She will also try to confirm the cost of publishing and mailing the Newsletter. A rough estimated of \$1500 per Newsletter was given by Arun based on the spending documented in the two accounts, Central Imaging and ByteMail. He put in a "fudge" figure for postage. Jean will try to get a closer estimate so that we can determine our pricing for advertisements. She will get with Roger before he talks to Dewayne at Morgan Keegan.

FERC - Chaplain's Care Committee: Ken & Diane Pfohl, Will Roberson

Ken praised Jean Ward – Jones (our Communication Chairperson) and Stan Cychowski for their wonderful support of the coffee, books and pillows for Vets. They always remember the Vets every month.

Ken asked Will to collect the amount of donations of coffee, books and pillows the club has made for the period June 1 2008 through this month. This will help quantify the "in-kind" donations of goods that the club has made to the V.A.

Ken agreed with Judy's suggestion to put a page on our website about V.A. programs and volunteer opportunities. She said we could post the letters of appreciation and various things the club members do for the veterans.

Ken provided Judy with the DVD of the *FedEx Retiree Club "40-Day" Family & Community Emergency Preparedness Planning Guide*©, for posting to our website.

Below is a recap of the Chaplain's Care Report. For a complete report please email Mary Chiozza at chiozzaf@bellsouth.net

Chaplain's Care Committee – "Thoughts & Prayers":

- Received Thank You note from Janis McNeal acknowledging Tom's Memorial Services, May 6th at Memorial Park.
- FedEx Capt. John Trainor, surgery for cancer was successful, recovering at home. Thank You card received by Chaplain's Care Cmte.
- Monta & Wallace Whittington. Wallace's by-pass surgery was successful.
- Jim and Betty Pike; Jim recovering from successful heart stint surgery.
- Capt. Reid and Lori Averill; Capt. Reid with brain cancer, at home with hospice care.
- Capt. John Lux and his family, at his passing in VA Beach, VA.
- Mark Yokell and his family at his passing.

Emergency Preparedness:

At last month's FERC BOD meeting, the Board members decided to place the *FedEx Retiree Club "40-Day" Family & Community Emergency Preparedness Planning Guide*© on our website, making it available to FERC members as an added benefit to membership. I have prepared a copy (DVD-RW) for that purpose, and a copy of the Front Cover of the manual for a "notice" of its availability in our next newsletter. The manual is very comprehensive and contains an endorsement from Shelby County Mayor A.C. Wharton.

JAVA4VETS Project:

Donations of coffee, continues to be going very well, in support of our **JAVA4VETS** project. This program and other projects such as the Ham Radio Technicians License training, **PILLOWS4VETS** and the development of a "Hoptel" facility, are all initiatives that our satellite members (clubs) could develop with their local VA Hospitals, Clinics and Voluntary Service Offices. FERC continues to receive thank you letters from the VAMC and Alpha Omega Veteran's Services, attendant to our **JAVA4VETS** project.

VAMC/FERC Hoptel Project Update:

Changes from last month's report are:

The final design layout for the Hoptel Project, based on the preliminary architectural design schematic drawing submitted by FERC's Chaplain's Care Committee, have been finalized. Pricing for the guest rooms and common area space... furnishings, appliances, fixtures, and floor coverings is complete. The furniture for the two "model" rooms (1 single and 1 double-bedded)...*"are in procurement,"* according to Mary Kay Campbell.

A "Notice-to-Proceed" with construction and demolition of the "Hoptel area, "on the 5th floor of the Bed Tower was issued by the hospital to the contractor on May 22, 2009. The contract calls for the construction/renovation work to be completed in 150 "working days," and the work will be divided into "Two Phases."

A meeting has been scheduled at the hospital, May 27th at 2:30pm for the purpose of discussing the brochure contents, format and the items documenting the new Hoptel project, needed from the VAMC to complete the brochure.

Veteran's Home for Greater Memphis/Shelby County SMSA:

Change from last month's report:

We are currently looking at two possible 25 acre sites; one in Millington and one in Fayette County.

Travel Committee: Open position

Special Events: Open position

Benefits Committee: Open Position.

Sales & Marketing: Open Position

Mary Chiozza
Secretary