

Fortuna Tierra Club
February 10, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM at the home of Nancy Meyers. The meeting was conducted by Co-President – Sue Wiens.

Opening Comments: Since we are so close to Valentine's Day and the 2014 Winter Olympics are in full swing at Sochi, Russia, Sue Wiens read a few comments regarding how Russia celebrates Valentine's Day. It turns out that Russia did not celebrate holidays until after the fall of the Iron Curtain. Today Valentine's Day is celebrated by only 39% of all Russians because most Russians do not believe that Russian culture benefits from a foreign holiday. Instead they celebrate a special Russian holiday with daisies instead of hearts at a different time of the year. Irene Stith read the Minutes of the February 3, 1981 Fortuna Tierra Club Meeting.

Roll Call indicated that there were 19 members present. No guests.

Minutes from last meeting had no corrections. Irene Stith made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Stephanie Gregory, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Laureen Kraft presented the January 2014 Treasurer's Report. A motion for Laureen Kraft to file this report was made by Lil Frederickson and seconded by Nancy Meyers. Laureen Kraft then presented the Fortuna Tierra 2014 Operating Budget Assumptions which included Philanthropic Expenses of \$12,200, Operating Expenses of \$3,180, and Revenue totaling \$10,000. Our Philanthropic Ratio is now 79% giving us a low A rating versus a C rating in 2013 (59%). Seven out of ten non-profit charities are at 75% so Fortuna Tierra is looking good. Sue Wiens discussed the FT donation of \$1,000 to the Ouray County Food Bank. It is all right for FT as a 501(c)3 to give a donation to the Ouray County Food Bank which is another 501(c)3 because the Food Bank does not do any fund raising of its' own. A motion by Lil Frederickson to give \$500 now to the Food Bank and another \$500 closer to the holidays was seconded by Nancy Meyers and passed. It was suggested to change the word donations in the budget to charitable disbursements. Sharon Kreutzen made a motion to approve the 2014 Fortuna Tierra Budget. It was seconded by Julia Johnson and approved.

Sue Wiens encouraged club members to do more volunteer activities. Stephanie Gregory suggested Meals on Wheels which is part of Neighbor to Neighbor. Volunteering at the schools would require a \$50 finger printing fee. Irene Stith suggested volunteering at the Visitor Center in the summer. It is very rewarding and interesting. Roze Evans suggested the Ouray Trails Group and the Log Hill Village Parks and Recreation District.

Newsletter and Web Page: Roze Evans discussed the Fortuna Tierra Website. Roze would like to use some stock photos to show what Fortuna Tierra does in the local community. She is working on a landing page for donations. Pay Pal was discussed, and a Fortuna Tierra account would have to be set up. All club members in attendance thought Pay Pal was a great idea. Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce was discussed. Roze made a motion for Fortuna Tierra to become a member of the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce which would cost \$100. Eve Becker-Doyle seconded the motion, and it was passed by a majority. Roze Evans and Nancy Meyers will e-mail a shorter monthly E-Blast notice to members rather than the regular newsletter.

Club Operations: Irene Stith said there is no report this month.

Compassion: Lil Frederickson reported that Les Watson is doing well after his kidney surgery. Elaine Wyers is doing better after a fall. Rich Miller is doing better. Sharon Kreutzen reported that the volunteer fire fighters responded to a propane explosion in the workshop/garage at the Dowdy home on North County Rd.1 where the homeowner was injured.

Fund Raising: No report because Shelly Bennett is still out of town.

Philanthropic: The scholarship committee, consisting of Cher Mitton, Mary Ann Guilinger, Anne Larivee and Roze Evans, had their first meeting on January 29, 2014. The scholarship committee revised the scholarship form, and Barry Doyle put the revised scholarship form into electronic format, so that students can now apply online. The scholarship applications are due back to Fortuna Tierra by April 1. This form will be given to Rick Williams who is the Ridgway School Counselor. The committee requested \$10,000 to be given out for scholarships this year, \$1,000 for the Food Bank, and \$1,000 for miscellaneous charitable local causes. These amounts have been approved by the Fortuna Tierra Board this year.

Old Business: Claudia Wolff will continue to try to create a Fortuna Tierra logo. She welcomed any ideas from members. The April meeting will be lunch and an activity, maybe a tour of the Ouray Historical Museum. Sue Wiens also discussed a possible dinner group with husbands for those members who would like more socializing.

New Business: Laureen Kraft passed around a non-profit brochure that discussed two grants that Fortuna Tierra may qualify for. Mary Anne Guilinger will look into this. Roze Evans also suggested an iGive.com button on the Fortuna Tierra website. This would allow people to donate money in an easy, efficient manner. All club members in attendance thought the iGive.com button was a great idea.

Sue Wiens announced the Birthdays and Anniversaries for February.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM for snacks and socializing.

Respectfully submitted,
Claudia Wolff – Secretary