

Minutes from Friends for Life of America General Meeting - November 16, 2000

I. Steven called the meeting to order at 7:12 P.M.

- He welcomed everyone and summarized the day's events. He commented that he was quite impressed with the membership's dedication. He went on to say those activities like Hearts for the Holidays make Friends For Life different and important. Steven also urged anyone with new ideas to approach the Executive Board.

II. Amanda read the minutes. The said minutes were passed.

III. Hearts for the Holidays

- Scott introduced Hearts for the Holidays and announced that 343 cards were made during the day. He projected that Friends for Life's goal of 3,000 cards would be easily attainable.

- Scott urged the membership to go to Friends For Life's table at Turlington to create cards. A. Scott introduced Hearts for the Holiday's chairperson, Tonya Carr.

- Tonya announced that she had made a schedule sheet for tabling. She also announced that the general membership was welcome to sign up for any available time slots.

B. Scott urged the membership to volunteer and introduced Carly Olsen to update the membership on the Greek aspect of Hearts for the Holidays.

- The Greek committee went to announce Hearts for the Holidays at the various houses on Monday, November 13, 2000.

- Some of the Greek organizations are categorizing any help for Hearts for the Holidays as community service.

- This program will continue until December 4, 2000.

- Steven commended Tonya and Carly for their work on Hearts for the Holidays.

- Scott added that the membership should not hesitate to tell friends and classmates about the program.

IV. Shands Volunteering

- Scott told that Shands has urged people to volunteer. If there are any questions concerning volunteering at Shands, email Scott at sgorran@friendsforlife.com. Volunteering is especially important at this time because it is the start of the new semester and all students have a new schedule.

V. Member Awards

- Steven announced that the fourth anniversary of Friends For Life would take place after the start of the new semester.

A. Daniel Star Service Award:

- One is awarded each year. Steven, although he was the president of his high school chapter of Friends For Life, received this prestigious award only once. It is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Friends For Life member.

- The award requires a unanimous Executive Board vote and faculty approval.

- The award is named for Daniel Heidenberg, the little six-year-old boy who passed away on December 27, 1996. B. Founder's Award.

- The founder (Steven) awards this particular honor.

- This award is based upon a combination of community service and fundraising.

C. Spirit of Excellence Award

- This honor is awarded strictly for volunteerism and the promotion thereof.

Friends For Life awards are not officer awards. These awards are in place to recognize excellence.

VI. Announcement

- Matt thanked everyone for coming out and informed the membership that the budget passed the second reading in front of the Student Senate. If the chairperson(s) of a committee is in need of funding, he/she must approach Matt. Still, the request for funding must be approved by both Matt and Steven. If it is approved, Matt will fill out a slip and submit it accordingly.

- Valerie explained that because the complexity of the fashion show, Friends for Life will not be holding it this year. The fashion show will be held in Spring of 2002. A committee will start planning for this event now. New programs are currently being planned, but the Executive Board will work out the logistics of the new projects before presenting the projects to the membership.

- Hanna asked if there were any proposals for programs for Friends For Life. A member suggested that Friends For Life sponsor a 5K run with an entry fee.

VII. Upcoming Events

- Steven announced that Hearts for the Holidays would continue through December.

- January: Painting For Patients. Painting for Patients will be a 30"x 40" painting presented to Shands Hospital to be put on display. This large project will take time to construct.

- February: A fundraiser will take place. Anyone with ideas should email Steven at scohen@friendsforlife.com The fourth anniversary of Friends For Life will take place during this month as well.

- March/April: The medical forum for education will occur during the time. This event may be co-sponsored with AMSA. Friends For Life will be flying in a speaker, who will speak during the forum. Other Shands employees will also speak. This even will be free and open to the public.

- May: Member awards will be given or possibly, a member excursion will occur.

- Friends for Life will be featured in the Alligator on Monday, November 20, 2000.

VIII. Conclusion

- Steven requested that any member with an inspirational story is welcome to speak during the meeting.

- The story takes place at the beach. An old man was watching a young boy play by the water. After some time, the old man approaches the boy and asks the boy what he is doing. The boy replies that he is throwing starfish out to the ocean so they do not die when the tide comes in. The old man comments on the uselessness of the boy's actions. For the young boy cannot save all the starfish and the tide may carry the starfish back in after all. The boy picks up a starfish and throws it into the ocean. He looks at the old man and says "I made a difference for that one." That is the point of Friends For Life, to get involved in anyway possible and impacts the lives of others, one patient at a time.

IX. Hearts for the Holidays

- Steven explains "card making fun."

X. The meeting is adjourned at 7:42 P.M.