

Friends of Korea annual member meeting
Minutes
October 24, 2015
Wellesley, MA

Welcome

Nancy Kelly, President of Friends of Korea, welcomed all members to the annual meeting at 11:15 am

2015 activities

Ms. Kelly provided the following update on various activities of the organization over the past year:

- Changes to the governance structure of the organization
 - The bylaws were revised to introduce staggered terms for board members;
 - The nomination process for new board members was modified to make it more inclusive by inviting nominations electronically from all members.
 - A nominating committee was appointed to oversee the process
- The new process was used to nominate and elect two new members of the board of directors, Sherrill McCullough Davis and Charles Shelan, and to vote for the board officers for the 2015-2016 term: Nancy Kelly, president; Suzanna Crowder Han, vice president; Gerard Krzic, vice president; Lynn Barclay, secretary; and James Mayer, treasurer.
- Three board members rotated off at this meeting: Ben Bryan, David Harrop, David Lassiter. Nancy thanked them for their service to the organization.
- Friends of Korea shipped more than 350 pounds of artifacts and memorabilia donated by former Peace Corps/Korea volunteers to Seoul in early 2015. These items are currently being reviewed and catalogued by the curators at the National Museum of Korean Contemporary History. A special exhibit is planned for the fall of 2016.
- James Mayer, treasurer of the board, reported on the sound financial health of FOK. As of September 2015, FOK had brought in \$14,841 in dues, donations and other support. Expenses totaled \$7,058.57. Mr. Mayer noted that FOK anticipates ending this year on a positive note, thanks to the support of members and donors.

News from the board of directors meeting

Ms. Kelly then reported on the discussions and decisions from the FOK board meeting held the previous day:

- FOK will help fundraise for a documentary about the Peace Corps, "A Towering Task." Details will be announced in the near future.

- The board has approved a new category of honorary membership to recognize individuals who are supportive of FOK. Materials on this will be posted on the FOK website in the near future.
- The board plans to establish a Kevin O'Donnell award for extraordinary contributions to the goals of Friends of Korea. It would be awarded no more than once a year, at the annual meeting.
- The board unanimously approved a partnership with KOICA. KOICA will become the first organizational member of FOK. Details of the partnership and possible areas of collaboration will be finalized soon.
- FOK will sponsor a photo contest in 2016, Korea, here and now, there and then. The theme is designed to be quite broad so as to encourage entries from people who have lived in and interacted with Koreans (both in the US and in Korea) across the decades.
- The 2016 FOK annual meeting will be held in Washington DC in the second half of September to coincide with events surrounding the celebration of the Peace Corps' 55th anniversary.
- The [Korean Heritage Library at USC](#), part of the East Asian Library there, is setting up a digital archives of Peace Corps-related documents that show how Peace Corps contributed to the development of Korea. The archives will be open to researchers and others interested in Peace Corps' role there. RPCVs are invited to loan or give any documents from their years of service to the library, and the library will digitize them. FOK's role is limited to publicizing the program; RPCVs deal directly with the library.

Member questions and comments

FOK was asked to publicize opportunities for American teachers to go to Korea on scholarship to learn about Korean language and traditional and popular culture, then bring what they learned back to their schools and share it with their students. Ms. Kelly will meet with Mr. Shim to get further details.

Neil Landreville, RPCV and artist, announced that his ink brush paintings of Jeollabuk-do are on exhibit at the Boston Korean consul general's office for at least a month.

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

Submitted by Lynn Barclay, Secretary of the Board.