



PROGRAMA PRO NINOS INCAPACITADOS DEL LAGO, A.C.
(PPNI, A.C.)

MEMBERS MEETING

HOTEL REAL de CHAPALA, 10:30 am
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bev Kephart, Dave Pike, Rich Petersen, Linda Hendy, Larry Wynant, Linda Hendy, Bill Dingwall, Rita Frost, Stuart Anderson, Donna Lillie,

ACTION NEEDED

Absent Board members; Barb Corol, Tom Gladney,

Recording Secretary: Linda Hendy

1. Bev Kephart opened the meeting with the announcement of the resignation of Stuart Anderson effective January 15, 2015. She thanked Stuart for his help to date and his continuation as the liaison to the Board of Chili Cook Off event. She also announced the appointment by the Board of David Flaningam to join the Board effective January 8. David will be reconfirmed as a Board member at the 2015 AGM.
Robin Lawrason was also announced as the Chair of the Nominations Committee.
Introduction of new guests to the meeting then took place.

2. Minutes from the General Meeting of November 13, 2014

Moved: Nicole Sergent Seconded: Ginger Gonzales
That the minutes be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

It was noted that there were no minutes for December, 2014 as that meeting was cancelled in favor of a volunteer thank you reception.

3. **CHILD OF THE MONTH** – presented by Nicole Sergent and Rich Petersen

Brayan Alejandro Alvarez Rojas
Attended with his mother Patricia.

Brayan is a teenager living in San Juan Cosala. He will be 16 in March. He has a 12 yr old sister and two brothers 2 & 3. He has no father but a good stepfather.

He has two tumors one malignant and one that is not. He has been diagnosed with Germinal cell tumors. He has a 19CM tumor in his intestines. Treatment is by chemo and Interferon to try and shrink the tumor to allow for surgery.

He is wearing a mask as he is high risk for infection as Interferon shuts down the immune system.

It was noted that an N95 mask would be much more effective. Nicole Sergent was to check if she had one to get to him. Seguro Popular is covering the chemo treatment when they have \$\$ however he has

Nicole Sergent

been referred to a cancer group that helps with the costs when they can as well. Brayan came to the Ajijic clinic in November. He is scheduled for an MRI in February to check on the tumor status. Surgery is risky as the tumor is around an artery as well. He is pain free, but he cannot attend school between his appointments and his risk of infection.

Ninos is covering Interferon and transportation costs in cooperation with the other agencies.

Michelle Bernier offered to be the point person to get any Spanish books to Brayan at the teenage level in history, geography etc. to help him study from home.

A computer may be possible via Ninos Incapacitados.

ACTION NEEDED

Michelle Bernier
766-0846
All members

4. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Larry Wynant

Larry noted that expenses for the 3 clinics for 2014 sit as \$1.7 million pesos. Our expenses in 2013 were up 36% and in 2014 are up another 24%, primarily due to medication costs. 2015 we are budgeting for a 20% increase.

December was a good fundraising month. He noted that event fundraising covers the cost of approximately 7 months of clinic expenses and the balance is covered by cash donations and other forms of fundraising.

Stuart Anderson made note that 96% of what is raised goes to support the children with only 2.8% going to administrative costs which is primarily the accountant and notario expenses.

There are no government grants at this time.

Members were reminded that tax receipts can be obtained in Canada, the US and in Mexico for any donation. In Canada it is through Save the Children Canada, in the US – The Foundation for Lake Chapala Charities and in Mexico a factura can be issued by Ninos Incapacitados.

All of our children and some siblings received or will receive a Christmas gift this year. Hasbro did donate 150 toys but confirmation of delivery was late so the Board of Ninos donated towards the purchase of age-appropriate gifts and a team of volunteers did the shopping in Guadalajara.

Clinic Reports:

Ajijic Clinic – Nicole Sergent

In December 20 families were seen and one new child was brought into the program, a baby with 3 heart chambers – very unusual.

\$31,708 pesos were disbursed and 3 loans granted. Ajijic now has 24 active families in the program.

Jocotepec Clinic – presented by Rich Petersen for Barb Corol
In December 51 families were seen over two clinics and \$68,920 pesos disbursed. Two new families came into the program one child with neonatal hypoxia and the other suffering daily convulsions.

ACTION NEEDED

One child, Joaquin, died in December. The family deeply appreciated the help extended to them to improve his quality of life until the end.

Chapala Clinic – Rich Petersen

Thanks was extended to Dr. Vince Botha a retired anesthesiologist who attended the December 24th clinic. He was extremely helpful offering insights on several conditions and their treatments.

60 families were seen over two clinics and \$75,367 pesos disbursed. A loan was extended for an MRI for a 3 yr old with convulsions.

Rich wanted everyone to know how appreciative the families are of our help. Notes from the families were passed around as samples. It was noted that they bring in baked goods and homemade gifts to coordinators.

**Bill Dingwall
Carol Antcliffe**

Kathy Dingwall suggested we get some of the photos taken of the families bringing gifts and thank you notes and add them to our website and newsletter.

EVENTS

Event or proposed event	Date	Chair
Trivia Quizzes	Tuesday, January 13 at 2:00 pm and 6:30 pm	Kathy Dingwall
Robbie Burns Dinner	Sunday, January 25 at 5:00 pm	Rita Philips
Mardi Gras parade	Tuesday, February 17	Patsy Smart
Jeffery Straker concert	Thursday, February 12 and Friday, February 13	Carol Antcliffe & Mary Ellen Rushworth
Chili Cook Off	Friday, February 27, Saturday, February 28 and Sunday, March 1	Kevin Smart
Viva Las Vegas Dinner/dance - Gala	Thursday, March 12	Ginger Gonzalez

Kathy Dingwall, Chair Trivia noted that over 30 volunteers are working for Trivia. 11 tables are booked for the afternoon and 23 for the evening. Tables sales are consistent with the previous year. Seeing a number of new people involved this year as well. A reminder notice and job outline has been circulated to all volunteers participating.

ACTION NEEDED

Robbie Burns – Linda Hendy noted that ticket sales were steady but we may not hit sell out. Presently have 175 tickets sold or committed out of a potential of 230.

Gala – Chair, Ginger Gonzales reminded folks this event is coming on March 12th. Big Band Jazz from Guadalajara is the dance band and has been fully sponsored through the efforts of the Dingwalls and Margaret Ancira. Plan to arrive for 5:30 pm and we are aiming to get the dancing under way by 7:45 pm.

David Flaningam offered a wine and food pairing seminar for the auction. Bill Dingwall and he to follow through on the details.

**Bill Dingwall
David Flaningam**

Jeffery Straker Concert – Co-Chair, Carol Antcliffe noted that there will now be a guitarist accompanying Jeffery and that the Mexican singer Ninah is potentially joining him as well here in Ajijic. Jeffery is leaving Ajijic to work with Ninah in Mexico City and Puebla concerts.

He is also scheduled to do a concert in Puerto Vallarta.

To give everyone a taste as to his music members heard Time after Time as sung by Jeffery Straker.

For the concert on Friday evening, tickets have been donated to CREM for the families to attend with the children.

General Ticket sales for the concert start Jan 28 through to Feb 13, Mon to Friday, 10-12 noon, at the Auditorio.

Vicky from the Auditorio staff will look after latecomers.

Tickets also available at Charter Club Tours during their regular office hours. Mon to Fri 10-6pm and Sat 10-2pm.

Chili Cook Off – Liaison Stuart Anderson noted that this will be an exciting event for Ninos Incapacitados.

There is no professional chili category this year but the charities can enter a team and the Grand Prize is \$10,000 pesos and the best Margarita - \$5000 pesos. This runs for one day only.

Fundraising – Other – Co-Chair, Linda Hendy reported that the committee had done a year-end appeal to donors who gave in 2013 but not in 2014 as well as many committee members and Board members soliciting friends and family. We had a 240% increase over December 2013 – approx. \$182,000 pesos. Work will continue over the course of this year to build on sources of funding other than events.

Medicial Committee – Chair, Bill Dingwall reported that the committee met and developed a written valuation process for the intake of children and the payment of expenses. Both documents will appear on the website at a future point.

77% of clinic costs are related to pharmaceuticals. Families are turned away if they make too much money; have IMSS, and if it is an orthopedic issue only they are referred to the Shrine.

Volunteers – Chair, Margaret Quinn she now has a volunteer database that is searchable courtesy of the work of Kari Higgins. She is currently seeking volunteers for the Chili Cook-off and Jeffery Straker concerts. They have started sending out detailed outlines of the volunteers and their role at an event for both role clarity and as a reminder of their commitment.

5. Other Business:

Ann Heath – Centavo coordinator was not in attendance, however, Bev Kephart asked that any change be provided to her and she will see it gets to Ann.

Announcements:

Kari Higgins announced to the members that Jane Hainsworth, former Directors of Communications for Ninos, lost her husband Mike quite suddenly on December 26th.

Kari also presented a new raffle drum that had been handmade and donated by Peter Wakeman and it was on display at the meeting.

Moved: Carol Antcliffe Seconded: Monique Grossman

That the meeting be adjourned - 12:05 pm.