

**United Nations Association of the United States of America
Region 11 Southern California & Las Vegas, Nevada
Regional Meeting Minutes
Westin City Center—Washington, DC
Sunday, June 1, 2013**

Members Present: **APPROVED TO POST: 09-25-2013** **Revision: 09-25-2013** **FINAL**

Mel Boynton-----Regional Representative/Division President
David Tuckman-----Regional Rep./Natl. YP Char/Div. Secretary, SFV Chapter Co-President
Chris Fennessy-----Regional Representative/Pasadena Chapter Co-President
Carl Mariz-----Orange County Chapter President
Jon Charles-----Pasadena Chapter Co-President
John Beynon-----Whittier Chapter President/Division Bylaws Committee Chair
Ike Khamisani-----Inland Empire Chapter President
Barry Simon-----So. California Division VP—Resource Development
Art Sutton-----Pomona Valley Chapter President
Peyman Riaoofi-----Pacific Los Angeles Chapter
Negeen Sadeghi-Movahed-----Orange County Chapter/GenUN Student
Kelsey Rihbany-----Orange County Chapter/GenUN Student
Nur Lalji-----Pomona Valley Chapter
Heather Ross-----Hollywood Chapter (in-formation)
Joe Catapano-----UNA-USA National Staff Liaison/Communications Officer

WELCOME: Noon—Mel Boynton

INTRO OF 2012 Region 11 Officers: by Mel Boynton

DIVISION/REGION GOALS FOR 2012-2014—Mel Boynton

Biggest Success/Challenge (each person gives theirs)

- 1) **John Beynon—Whittier:** Success: Got a conference call with Representative Linda Sanchez who is very open and friendly. Challenge: Tackled climate Change. We're creating a group of 4 organizations on lowering the carbon footprint, land use and agriculture.
- 2) **Carl Mariz—OC:** Co-sponsored a number of functions and events with Council on Foreign Relations and Soka Intl. University.
- 3) **Negeen Sadeghi-Movahed—OC:** set up a GenUN. The intern program is bringing in a lot of young people. Lots of student volunteers.
- 4) **Chris Fennessy—Pasadena/Foothills:** held Women of the world Awards and our 5th Annual Model UN Event. Challenge: engaging more general membership.

- 5) **Nur Lalji—Pomona Valley:** our challenge is changing demographics. Our success is top events.
- 6) **Heather Ross—Hollywood:** we are a new chapter. We are engaging the entertainment industry.
- 7) **Barry Simon—Division:** Challenge is communication from National on who's in a chapter to be official.
- 8) **Mel Boynton—Pomona Valley:** Chris excels as parliamentarian. David leads our Youn Professionals for the Nation. I'm the CCR Vice-Chair for the Nation We in So. Cal. Are leading the Nation. We lift up the best and brightest. We share the best of what's happening and have a lot of senior and retired UN Officials in our Division. Mark your calendars: Thur 9/26 is the 6th Annual West Coast Global Forum. We're here to support chapters not compete with them. We're revising our bylaws. 11/9 Division Annual Mtg. were inviting a high ranking keynote. 9/26 WCGF Luncheon at California Endowment. It's been an honor serving you. Its my 4th year as Division President. I've had 2 2-year terms. I'm still a Regional rep. It's time for fresh ideas.
- 9) **David Tuckman—San Fernando Valley Chapter:** We are successful in advocacy and reaching out to our elected officials. And I see them a lot at local community events such as Congressman Brad Sherman who I spoke to at the Leukemia and Lymphoma Walk as a staffer for Red Cross but in that capacity I was able to also bring in information on the UN. Our challenge is to engage more members, perhas by sending more event info by USPS mail.
- 10) **Barry Simon:** Thank you David and Mel for your leadership on the West Coast Global forum. We have honored LA County District Attorney Gil Garcetti, Coalition to Abolish Human Trafficking, ambassador Luers and will honor Pasadena Mayor Bougarrrd and Sylvia Whitlock of Rotary International who got rotary to include women, breaking the glass ceiling.
- 11) **Ike Khamesani—Inland Empie:** held a program on Human Rights and International Day of Women. Keynote was Gillian Sorensen. Former UN Assistant Secretary General. Our area is large. Members numbers low so we collaborate with agencies and universities to invite people of all walks of life. Challenge: we lost 4 board members and have lots of young blood which equals new ideas an we are planning the International Conference on Human Rights.
- 12) **Art Sutton—Pomona Valley.** We are reaching out to the House of Representatives and have met with 2 Congressmen and staff.

Joe Catapano—UNA-USA Natl. Communications Officer: You are one hell of a Region. You are doing Model UN, Advocacy and have a great support structure. In DC you have to oppportunity to share with others across the country on all we do.

13) Peyman Raoofi—Pacific-Los Angeles: Events are strong and a great 2012 Human Rights Day & Women's Day Gallery. Our Challenge is involving more members.

Boynton: chapters are here today in Washington, DC of 11. Long Beach/South Bay Chapter is not here. We have a great turnout.

Q&A

Mariz: I'm pleased with the youth delegate to the UN General assembly. Our Chapter worked very hard on this.

Boynton: OC pressed hard for a United States youth delegate. Part of Brooke Loughrin's selection as the US Youth Observer at the UN is thanks to the OC Chapter.

ADVOCACY: Boynton: its most important as leaders to let our elected leaders know the UN is important, ask for full funding and support of Treaties. Carl is Division advocacy Lead. Others may call you on advocacy. Ignore it b/c it needs to come from Carl or your Regional reps or your chapter advocacy lead, your only authorized rep on advocacy. When talking to Congress use the talking points plus issues of interest to chapters i.e. MDG's is ok. The Pentagon budget for a particular weapon—not ok. Landmine issue is ok to bring up, it's historic but not **focused on by National now. Women's equality-ok.**

Beynon: Peace keeping, development, emergencies important in advocacy. I have 32 years in UNESCO.

Boynton: When there are several chapters in a Congressional District you may have competing ideas. We have talking points in the advocacy handbook.

EVENTS TO ALL PROMOTE:

Boynton: Use Division Calendar. Chapters can post.

-Can post events of other organizations if related.

-Use Facebook & Twitter

-Promote you chapter's events

Ross: look into constant contact. It does a newsletter for you and costs \$30/months.

Riaofi: Vertical Response is the same as constant contact but it is free for NGOs.

Boynton: look at Male Chimp but there is an e-mail limit.

MEMBERSHIP

Fennesy: As a student I know engagement of young people is key. Our passion, time we can give but allow us to be part of your board on an even level and not the ones to carry stuff around for you all the time. With Free Membership for students and GenUN it will vitalize the organization.

Beynon: We are doing well in membership and need to contact more youth.

Boynton: You need 50 membership brochures by your desk in your briefcase. If not ask Monika Johnson for 1,000.

Tuckman: On my flight to DC I met a passenger near me who has a friend that works in UNDP. I gave him a membership brochure and we're keeping in touch and he plans to join the UNA-USA. We even went to the same college

Fennesy: Still working on bylaws. Only a few people have dropped off suggestions.

Beynon: There are a lot of minor changes to be made still to the division bylaws. We wait your suggestions and then set a committee and we'll vote on it in November and it's key to make sure GeUN members don't have to pay dues

Boynton: The Division Bylaws are on the Division website. Regional Reps., if not on the Division Board, then we want to make them members of the Executive Committee and 2nd the \$1.50 per member to the Division need not be spelled out as for paying members and not for students who are free members. The procedures under the bylaws need to be made clearer.

Simon: A big thanks to me in his last term as Division president for what you stand for in the world and all you contribute to the world.

Adjournment: 1:00 PM

MINUTES BY: David Tuckman, Region-11 Representative & Acting Secretary
