

*Mission: "To bring Christians to a closer, more personal walk with their Lord Jesus Christ and encourage them to Christian leadership and apostolic action in their environments."*



## **Secretariat of North Florida Tres Dias**

**MINUTES**

**Abundant Life Binders and Believers, Cairo, GA**

**AUGUST 26, 2024**

**6:00 PM**



### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Andy Fowler, Chairman  
Felisha Mitchell, Spiritual Community Director  
Cindy Croley, Secretary  
Sean Nyberg, Treasurer  
Deanna Settegren, ½ Weekend Couple  
Becky Strahan, PO Coordinator  
Chad & Amanda Slayton, ½ Procurement Couple  
Kay King, Women's Leader  
Bruce & Jaime Hale, Food Couple  
Jay Hayes, Data Management  
Aaron & Iris Loudermilk, Newsletter Couple  
Rodney & Jessica Whitfield, Palanca Couple

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Marden McClamma, Men's Leader  
Jen & Jason Hamilton, Pre-Weekend Couple  
Michael & Shea Sanders, Fourth Day Couple  
Dude Settegren, ½ Weekend Couple

### **VISITORS:**

Kristin Bailey  
Mary Bailey  
Michael Mitchell  
Scott & Chris Farney  
Bruce King  
Doug Kirk  
Mark Savage  
Bobby Strahan

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## **WELCOME / LIGHTING OF CANDLE / OPENING PRAYER / DEVOTION / COMMUNION**

Chairman, Andy Fowler called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Felisha Mitchell shared devotion. Nothing is too big or impossible for God IF we give it to Him. God will give us the outcome He knows is best, not necessarily what we want. Jeremiah 32:17 "O Sovereign Lord! You made the heavens and earth by your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for you!"

## **MINUTES**

The minutes may reflect the actual sequence of events as discussed rather than the original agenda order.

**Approval / Corrections of May 2024 Minutes** - Cindy read minutes out loud. Minutes were approved.

## **REPORTS**

### **1. Financial Report, Sean Nyberg, Treasurer**

Investment account - \$12,529.84, Operating account - \$19,745.07, Procurement account - \$1,000.00, Food account - \$1,000.00, Savings Account - \$1,000.26, Total Synovus - \$22,745.33, Grand Total - \$35,275.17. \*\*Upcoming expenses\* Annual renewal for Insurance - \$1,350, Large expenses paid - Tres Dias International Assessment total of \$780.00 (\$7.50 per 101-150 new pescadores) and Performace Foodservice Powell total of \$4133.05 (missed payment for Women's weekend food in the Spring)

### **2. Weekend #68 Reports**

- **Kay King, Women's Leader-** Kay shared that Cindy and the team are doing an excellent job. There have been two full Saturday meetings so far. The team is full.
- **Marden McClamma, Men's Leader** - Andy shared that 2 meetings have been held and spiritual directors have been sharing their talks.

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**3. Pre-Weekend, Jason & Jen Hamilton**

Cindy shared an update on applications. Men have 16 applications and 7 confirmed, women have 25 applications and 6 confirmed.

**4. Sequela Update, Michael & Shea Sanders**

Michael and Shea Sanders were not present. The next sequela will be September 14th at First Baptist Church of Thomasville.

**5. P.O Coordinator**

Becky Strahan shared that the August 3rd PO had 83 in attendance. Sean Nyberg and Becky will conduct a Zoom meeting on September 9th at 6:30 p.m. for those who had previously reached out about conflicts with the August 3rd date. Sean will reach out to international to find out whether there is a process to implement online tools for essentials training.

**6. Other Member Reports**

- Newsletter couple - Aaron and Iris shared that they have had 100% participation from the Secretariat in the newsletter for the last few months.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Location for Secretariat meetings for 2025 was discussed. Further discussion was held regarding the need to split the meetings between Tallahassee and South Georgia. Sean Nyberg motioned that the meetings be held at Lifepoint Church in Tallahassee for the January through May meetings and Abundant Life Binders and Believers for the June through November meetings. Jay Hayes 2nd. All were in favor.
2. Rules committee adjusted the sequela language on the website to remove July from the "open by invitation only" category as there is no sequela in July. A question was raised whether "open to all" includes "different lifestyles". It was clarified that "open to all" simply means that family members, friends, and children who are not currently part of the community or those who may be interested in joining the community are welcome. Sean Nyberg motioned to accept the new language, Jay Hayes 2nd, all were in favor.

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The rules committee also met via Zoom on August 24th to discuss the language in Section 2.8.2 of the policies and practices that references the spouses talk. Language has been added to address spouses who are also clergy. This language needs to be adjusted to clearly state that the spouse talk is to be given after the apostolic hour at closing if the spouse is clergy. The updated language will be presented at the September meeting for approval.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Becky Strahan clarified that any compliance related issues and adjustments take effect now.

3. Attendance Policy - Discussion was held regarding team meeting attendance and whether a policy needs to be implemented to require a certain level of attendance in order to serve on a Tres Dias Weekend. Section 2.4 "The Team" paragraph 3 of the Policies and Practices currently states "It is expected that all team members will make all team meetings". Sean Nyberg will ask International about an attendance policy. This will be tabled for additional discussion at the September meeting.
4. Policy for Spiritual Directors going over time - This issue is not only with spiritual directors but also rollistas for both lay and clergy talks. There have been instances when either a rollista or a spiritual director has significantly gone over the allotted time for their talk. It may not be necessary to implement a formal policy. The men's and women's leaders should let all speakers know that they will be given a 10 min. 5 min, etc. indication during the talks to let them know how much time is left. If it is felt that Holy Spirit is leading the speaker to add to or significantly alter their critiqued talk they should look to authority for permission. Language may need to be added to the outlines given to rollistas that establishes these expectations. This will be tabled for additional discussion at the September meeting.
5. Policy for going to the ER - Discussion regarding whether leaving the campground to go to the ER necessitates leaving the weekend and going home. It will depend on the nature of the emergency. In cases such as stitches or burns in which the person is cleared by a doctor and could return and not be significantly impacted by their injury it may be allowable for them to return to the campground and the weekend. It would likely need to be a case by case decision. There is a position paper from international that states emergencies are an exception to the "cloister". A rover should go with the person if possible as they are allowed to leave and return to the campground when necessary.
6. Pre-qualifications for serving in positions - tabled to September

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7. New Mattresses for candidate beds - There is currently \$2,200 in the mattress fund. Sean Nyberg presented a quote for 36 mattresses measuring 38" x 74" and varying thicknesses. 5 inch thickness would cost \$3,778.20, 6 inch would cost \$4,138.20 and 7 inch would cost \$6,804.00. Sean will talk to Doug regarding the logistics and whether the campground would contribute anything towards the cost. Tabled for more information and additional discussion.
8. PO 101 - discussed offering additional time after the regular PO for new pescadores
9. Serenade (taking meal to the lodge) and lining walks after serenade - The issue was raised that lining the walks after serenade and saying "thank you" may break sequester. It was suggested that both men and women sing "when the night is falling" together as this would limit the temptation to talk to one another. Rodney Whitfield motioned and Jessica Whitfield 2nd that everyone will sing as the walks are lined to the gazebo after serenade.

Sending the assistant head, spiritual directors, etc. to read the letter from the rector and/or sharing updates from the weekend is also breaking sequester. Rodney suggested that the rector needs to pick someone at serenade to read their letter to the serenaders. The letter could be delivered to the gazebo by a rover. Jessica Whitfield motioned that "the rector chooses someone on the serenade team to read his or her letter. The letter will make it to the serenade team to be read by being delivered to the designated palanca drop off area. This can also include a weekend update from a spiritual director." Amanda Slayton seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Taking a meal, prepared by the kitchen, to the lodge is also breaking sequester. Discussion was held regarding whether a meal is even necessary. The men shared that in general it is not necessary to provide food for their serenade practice as they are only there for 2-3 hours. For the women, there is a team meeting also on the day of serenade and not a lot of options to obtain food in the limited amount of time between the meeting and serenade practice. Discussion was held regarding options for the women. Ultimate consensus was that a meal would not be prepared by the kitchen for either the men or the women's serenade practice. Rodney motioned "Announce that meals will not be provided for serenade practice", Jaime Hale 2nd, 15 in favor, 1 opposed, motion passed.

**SECRETARIAT SPECIAL GROUP PRAYER PALANCA TIME FOR OTHER COMMUNITIES AND WEEKENDS AND CLOSING PRAYER.**

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting was adjourned at 08:15 p.m. with Felisha Mitchell giving the closing prayer. At 8:15 p.m., the Secretariat entered into Executive Session. The meeting is private and no minutes are recorded.

**Next Meeting: September 23, 2024 at Abundant Life Binders and Believers in Cairo, Georgia**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindy Croley, Secretary.

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