

YORK TWINNING ASSOCIATION

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Minutes for Monthly Meeting –February 21, 2024 – YMCA (Loucks Room) 90 North Newberry St. York, PA 17401 and via Zoom

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag:

6:39 PM by Betty Stein/Doug Stein

Attendance Officers and Chairpersons Live (unless noted Zoom)

Co-Presidents – Betty & Doug Stein

Vice President – Laura Koebnick (absent)

Secretary – Michele Groat

Treasurer –JaNeene Powell (absent)

Assistant Treasurer – Kyle Groft (absent)

French Adult Exchange Chair – Ben Stein (absent), Jennifer Grim (absent)

French Student Exchange Co-Chairs – Kristin Witmer (zoom) & Kristi Spies (absent)

German Adult Exchange Co-Chairs – Hank Groat (zoom)and Laura Koebnick (absent)

German Student Exchange Co-Chairs – Hannah Heintzelman Molly Wiles (both absent)

12th Night House Tour Fundraising Co-Chairs – Amy Matthews (absent) & Jessica Henning

General Fundraising Chair – POSITION OPEN

Membership/Dues – Brandi Whitman (absent)

Marketing/PR – POSITION OPEN

Way/Means – POSITION OPEN

Newsletter – Betty Stein

Webmaster – Ken Krause (zoom)

Hospitality – Kristi Spies (absent)

Spring Winetasting Co-Chair – Kristi Spies, Melanie Winters (absent), JaNeene Powell (absent)

Compliance Officer – POSITION OPEN

Attendance of Additional Members

Carolyn VanNewKirk

Bettina Koepf

Via Zoom

Linda Just

Hank Groat

Jane Best

Diane & Bob Reimert

Kristin Witmer

Board Nominations

In order for the Co-Presidents to participate in the nominations and be nominated, Jessie Henning was presented as the temporary President, motion first by Michele Groat, second by Carolyn VanNewkirk.

Jessie presented the slate of officers. Incumbents agreed to serve for another term with the exception of Ben Stein who has stepped down as the French Adult Co-Chair and Hannah Heintzelman who has stepped down as the German Student Exchange Co-chair. Linda Just motioned to accept the slate of officers, and Hank Groat second that motion. Motion carried with no discussion. Doug and Betty Stein reinstated as Co-Presidents.

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Minutes of Previous Meeting:

No questions on the previous minutes, motion by Jessie Henning to accept minutes. Motion seconded by Linda Just. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Doug presented Treasury Information, Balance Sheet and Statement of Activity as of January 31, 2024

Net Revenue = \$2642.82 for January 2024

Total Liabilities and Equity - \$36,746.29 (as of January 31,2024)

12th Night Statement of Activity - \$5,027.61 profit (complete for January 2024)

Carolyn asked for more detailed information from the Treasurers as they were absent, Linda Just suggested a potential audit be performed. Nothing was decided at this time, Doug and Betty were going to follow-up; however they shared the details were in Quick Books and accessible Assistant Treasurer Kyle Groft and Co-Presidents Doug and Betty Stein who felt they had adequate oversight. Linda Just motioned to approve the Treasurer's report and Jessie Henning seconded, motion carried.

Exchange Chair Updates:

French Student Exchange Co-Chair Kristin Witmer reported – Tickets were determined, flying out of Philadelphia on June 23, arriving in Marseilles June 25th, returning July 9th with their French counterparts. Kristin asked if the tickets could be bought on the YTA account, \$1600.00 per person. Five students will be traveling , and Kristin will be chaperoning. Kristin made a motion to utilize the \$9600.00 on account when the student \$500.00 deposits were received. (only one received as of this date) Jessie Henning second the motion, motion carried.

German Adult Exchange Co-Chair Hank Groat reported – Meeting held February 21, 2024 at the Groat household, attended by The Stein's and the Koepf's. Ulrich communicated they would have definite dates by the end of March. Meanwhile, a schedule was planned based on a tentative arrival date of 8/29/24 through 9/5/24. The Farewell celebration will be at the Stein home tentatively scheduled for September 3rd or 4th, depending on confirmation of dates. A York Day, Lancaster Day and Gettysburg visit are considered along with an outing to the Kipona festival in Harrisburg over the Labor Day weekend. We will need hosts, drivers, and anyone who would be willing to spend time with our friends from Leinfelden-Echterdingen.

German Student Exchange, Betty Stein reported for the Co-Chairs in their absence – Eleven students will be traveling June 16 to Leinfelden-Echterdingen returning June 30. Adrianna Clinton is chaperoning this trip. Germany will send approximately 20 students to York around October 20th for two weeks. YTA will be looking for volunteers to help with this exchange, hosts for the additional students, drivers and chaperones for day trips. More information to follow closer to the date.

*After dates for the German Student Exchange to LE were confirmed between York and LE, a deposit of \$1,200 needed to be made in order to secure those dates and lock in rates for travelers. On 2/9/2024 an email vote was taken to approve that payment. A yes vote was received by 16 of 18 officers and committee chairs. 2 people did not respond.

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Future Travel Planning Dates

September 2024 – trip to Arles, France is supported but not sponsored by YTA. A small group of members will travel independently to represent YTA at their 70th Anniversary celebration of friendship between Arles, France and York, PA, USA. Currently, Marty & Heidi Brooks, Lee & Laura Koebnick, Carolyn VanNewkirk and Linda Just are scheduled to go. Carolyn expressed some concern they did not have a French speaker representative attending to present a speech, they may have to use a translator. French counterparts agreed to accommodate five to six representatives, slots are currently filled. \$100 has been approved for a gift from YTA to the Arles Twinning group. Carolyn Van Newkirk said she would take care of getting and presenting the gift. She suggested that a letter from our York Mayor be included.

Leinfelden-Echterdingen is also celebrating an anniversary between LE and York for 40 years of friendship. No YTA members are currently planning to attend that celebration as it was only recently communicated.

2024 Summer – French student exchange June/July

2024 Summer – LE adults visit York (tentatively end of August/early September)

October 2024 – German students visiting York

2025 Summer – YTA adults to visit LE

2026 Summer – Arles adults to visit York

USA 250th anniversary & USA/France Connection

Spring Wine Tasting –

Same place as last year at Social Revival Club (19 N. George St.) 2:00-4:00 – Saturday, March 9, 2024. Tickets are available for sale until February 29, 2024 at \$38.00 per person. Fee includes 4 samples wines, from our twin city area, pairings and charcuterie with a sommelier providing feedback for your experience.

Summer Social – Social/Bastille Day

Bastille Day celebration with French Exchange students July 24, 2024 at the Stein residence, details to follow.

Fall Oktoberfest party – Hank & Michele Groat –

Lancaster Liederkranz/Weekend of September 20-22, 2024 details provided closer to the event.

12th Night Holiday Tour - Jessica Henning/Amy Matthew (absent)

Twelfth Night – Jessie Henning and Co-Presidents Doug and Betty Stein were optimistic that the 2025 Twelfth Night Tour would have more homes committed as they already had several interested. Save the date, January 5, 2025. This year's profit was \$5,027.61, a great effort for all involved.

Webmaster:

Please submit information Ken Krause to share on our website at tp148.1@email.com.

Newsletter:

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The March 2024 Tete newsletter was sent out with the agenda, prior to this meeting. If anyone has information to include in the next Tete, that goes out in June, please send to Betty Stein at j1j2j31@comcast.net. Perhaps either a student or adult that recently traveled to one of our Twin Cities would be willing to share their experiences.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:59pm

Minutes submitted by: Michele Groat, Secretary YTA

Next Meeting April 17, 2024, 6:30 PM, YORK YMCA