

Subject: New Board Structure and Regional Meeting Info

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Dear FCCLI Members:

A meeting was held Friday September 11, 2009 to discuss the future of FCCLI since it was announced that Jayne Hirsch and Kristen Hayes have stepped down as Regional Coordinators.

Twenty seven (27) people were present and it was determined an Interim Advisory Board be put in place. This Board will be responsible for the day to day operation of the organization. Seven (7) members volunteered including: Mandee Zapken and Beth Laxer-Limmer who will serve as co-coordinators, Danielle Gallagher, Donna Sadowsky, Paul Hellman, Jennifer Wilson-Pines, and Denise Schnittman. We will leave two spots open until our next meeting and we encourage and welcome others who are interested to volunteer. If more than two individuals express an interest, we will consider the possibility of a larger Advisory Board. ALL FCCLI Members are invited to attend Board Meetings regardless of whether they hold a seat on the Board or not and there will be a forum after the evening agenda where all can participate.

Within the Board we are looking for specific roles to be filled including Recording Secretary and Treasurer. The Recording Secretary will be responsible for taking minutes and posting them on the web site as well as posting general information pertinent to the group. The Treasurer is responsible to maintain the books, establish a budget along with the board, pay bills, reconcile invoices, collect and balance monies. It would be helpful if the Treasurer has a background in bookkeeping and/or accounting though it is not a requirement.

Requirements for Board positions are as follows:

1. Board members must be current dues-paying members of FCCNY.
2. Board will make a one (1) year commitment to service.
3. There will be six (6) meetings per year or one (1) meeting every other month. Board Members are required to attend all meetings. Missing two (2) meetings will result in relinquishing the board position.
4. Treasurer is responsible to bring a balance & reconciliation sheet to each meeting.

In addition to seats on the Board, there are still committee chairperson spots available. Listed below are the assigned chair people for committees as well as available openings. Each committee will be in need of many volunteers.

At least one chair from each committee must be present at each Board meeting to discuss plans, progress, goals etc of their specific committee.

1. Holiday/ Cookie Exchange: Mande Zapken, Barbara Kressel, and Anne Donovan
2. Lunar New Year: Missy Kenny Corron, Beth Laxer-Limmer, and Lisa Hochberg
3. Waiting Families: Lori Halop
4. Youth Group: Barbara Fischthal and Lisa Burke
5. Education: Kristen Hayes, Danielle Gallagher, and Donna Sadowsky
6. Special Needs/ Older Child Adoption: Lauren Schilling, Vicki Van Nostrand, and Lisa Casamassina
7. Website: Danielle Gallagher
8. Membership: **Open**
9. Fundraising: Teresa Balducci Greenberg, Mande Zapken
10. "Welcome Home": Joann Nix, Donna Sadowsky, and Michelle Mugavero
11. Father/ Men's Group: Paul Hellman, Andrew Kressel, and Duncan Fieldsa-Fowl
12. Lending Library: Kate Dlugozima

We understand that not everyone can commit the time and energy to a Board position or a Chair position. Please note that Board meetings will be open to the entire membership whether or not you are serving a Board or Chair position. We will have an open forum and Q&A after the agenda is completed. Please feel free to attend any or all board meetings. The schedule for board meeting will be posted on the FCC website shortly.

Please also be aware that the twelve committee chairs will need plenty of volunteers. There are many opportunities for you to help serve this organization in a multitude of ways. If you would like to offer you time to help please contact Beth or Mande Zapken or one of the chair people directly. If you are unsure of where to help, we will gladly guide you to the right committee.

The next meeting will be held on September 25, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 25 Broadway in Amityville. We look forward to seeing you all there.

We hope you can join us and look forward to working together to make FCCLI a continued success. If you need any further assistance or have any questions please email Mande Zapken at TOYZCO@aol.com or Beth Laxer-Limmer at edcoordinator@juno.com.

Sincerely,
Beth Laxer-Limmer and Mande Zapken

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