



Minutes of Meeting – 8th September 2008

Tyne Youth & Community Centre, Mariners Lane, Tynemouth

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Present: Barrie Braidford, Joan Whitney, Adrian Woodcock, Brian Wood, Janet Long, Derek Airey & Graham Marsh.

Apologies: Judith Burgess, Alf Brown

Derek Airey, a former member of the old FTA committee, was introduced to everyone and duly elected, unanimously, to serve on the committee.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Amendments

- Item re Newsletter a) Should read “Cardioventions is now part of ‘Edwards Life sciences and because of this they are looking at all projects they support.”
- Brian Wood was in attendance.

3. Matters arising

- The chairs for the flats are still under consideration
- The refund for the Bipac machine had been resolved to the treasurer’s satisfaction.
- Joan Whitney proposed that the minutes be accepted and Adrian Woodcock seconded.

4. Games report

- Graham Marsh gave an overview of both the European Games in Vichy, France and the British Games held in Sheffield recently.

- The medal count at the European Games was: 21 Gold, 22 Silver and 10 Bronze we had 21 competitors and 10 supporters.
- The Freeman squad was the largest of the GB Team
- The medal count at the British Games was: 9 Gold, 15 Silver and 12 Bronze we had 27 competitors and 10 official supporters.
- The Freeman Team was one of the largest at the Games and as ever the chance to take part and help promote the donor card register and organ donation was more important than winning medals, although we were very successful.
- Graham had not yet heard from GB Team manager Lynne Holt as to who had been selected for next year's World Transplant Games in Australia as a result of performances at Sheffield.

5. Forthcoming events

- Golden Ball Golf at Scalm Park Golf Club - 27th September, a new transplant golf event organised by Sid & Carol Lamb in conjunction with their annual President's Golf Day.
- Graham informed the committee of the revised cricket schedule for his forthcoming trip to Australia
- Volleyball Tournament – 8th November to be held in Liverpool – all had been notified.

6. Children's report

- Janet Long, from the children's team, informed the meeting that there were 6 competitors supported by 13 adults at the British Games in Sheffield.
- They had won 3 Gold, 2 Silver and 3 Bronze
- Irene Haddlington was looking into organising a children's Christmas event at Kielder in an effort to get more children involved.
- 'Children in Need' had filmed Rebecca Long, one of the Freeman Kid's team, which will hopefully be shown on BBC TV this November.

7. Newsletter

- It was agreed that if the newsletter was just about ready to be published then we should go ahead even if we have not yet received sponsorship from Cardioventions.
- Brian Wood suggested we Email the newsletter to members in the future once we have an Email database. We could request addresses in next newsletter.
- Barrie Braidford will speak to Judith to see if we are in a position to go ahead and publish before AGM.

8. Any other business

- Invitations for AGM are ready to send.
- Barrie will ask at the Freeman if we can use their franking machine to send out newsletters and we will pay the cost.

- It was agreed that 'reasonable travel expenses' which are reimbursed to members attending transplant events does not include taxis or car parking charges.
- Barrie explained that we provide teas and coffees for the clinic as well as lots of other equipment eg fridges etc and any other needs that are not funded by the NHS so that life is easier for the staff.
- Brian asked what we as an association do to promote the organ donor register and transplantation in general. He thought that sport was very high profile and not much else. We had a long discussion and it was felt that individuals from the FHLTA do lots of work which receives coverage in their local press and sometimes nationally. The sport was high profile and generates lots of good publicity and we are particularly good at it.
- What else can we do? We had a 21st anniversary party and will do similar for our 25th in 2010.
- Graham said that he should have promoted the Donor Bus in Newcastle on the website and does try and include stories other than sport but if people don't send material in it is very difficult. Judith has the same problem with the newsletter.
- Generally we don't do so badly and we are always looking to promote the programme and donor issues.
- It was agreed that we should add a link on our website to the **TxSpace – Connect** website which was recently launched by Sarah Brown, the wife of the Prime Minister at No 10 Downing Street.
- The young man from Leeds, Andy Drysdale, who had asked what he could do to help with the FHLTA was discussed and Derek Airey said he would meet with him when next in clinic and have a chat. Graham was going to Email Andy and tell him about the work of TSN which would be an ideal way of helping.
- It was agreed that we should purchase more FHLTA pin badges because they had been a great success and had all gone. We could make them available at the AGM with a suggested selling price of £1.

9. Date of the next meeting

3rd November 2008 at noon.