

# Freethought Society of the Midlands

## Business Meeting Minutes

7:00pm, January 15, 2014

*Location: Grecian Gardens Restaurant*

*Number of attendees: 13 (11 returning, 2 new)*

Dean Smith opened the meeting by announcing the Freethought Society of the Midlands (FSM) is seeking to establish a business account at a local credit union. This is in response to a \$25 donation in the form of a check made out to the FSM. In order to cash it, we must establish a business account. The credit union also wants copies of meeting minutes and the names of our officers.

Since this needs to be done relatively quickly before the check goes out of date, Dean said he was appointing officers. He will be President and Treasurer while Elaine will be Vice President. Andrea Moore will be our Executive Assistant while Lil Dowdey will be the Secretary. Officers next year will be elected.

There was some discussion as to which officers would be able to sign checks on the account. Dean said it would probably be him and whichever of the officers go with him to establish the account.

As for our current financial standing, we have \$45 in cash and our \$25 check. The cash is left over from the \$500 we raised for the tenth anniversary party. \$300 went toward the party with the remaining \$200 donated toward victims of sexual trauma. An additional \$100 was raised by Andrea and Gavin Moore's photo booth at the party.

Dean also passed along some information on "Z Day". On January 31, 2014, members can show solidarity with the cause of Mark Zmuda, a Seattle teacher who was fired from his job at a Roman Catholic school when Mr. Zmuda married his same-sex partner. Since then, the church has offered to give him his job back if he is willing to divorce his spouse. Supporters are asked to wear orange on January 31 and post photos of themselves on Facebook.

Andrea Moore will talk to Amy about the possibility of our group sponsoring a child at Camp Quest. The usual amount for such a scholarship is \$500. However, as Andrea Maloney has pointed out, groups are sometimes able to sponsor a child for free. Andrea will let us know if this can be arranged.

Andrea Maloney told the group that Amy and her husband will be holding an improve group this weekend if anything is interested. Dean asked if we might get a bit more notice for the next workshop.

The business portion of the meeting being over, everyone concentrated on remembering the name of the outstanding wait-staff serving us. For future reference, he name is Denise and we will certainly ask for her next time.