

1996

**ATHEISTS OF FLORIDA, INC.**  
**Fourth Annual Board of Directors Meeting**  
Tampa, Florida  
May 19, 1996

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The fourth annual Board Meeting of Atheists of Florida, Inc. was held Sunday, May 19, 1996 in the conference room of the office of Atheists of Florida member Ed Golly at 5103 South Westshore Blvd., Tampa, Florida.

The meeting was called to order by President Christos Tzanetakos at 12:45 p.m.

The President noted that this was the annual board meeting called by the directors of the above named corporation pursuant to the bylaws of said corporation for the purpose of electing directors for the coming year and other items specified on the agenda which had been delivered to all board members along with the minutes of the previous meeting over one month prior to the meeting.

The President then called roll and found the following Board Members to be present:

Christos Tzanetakos	Charles Schisler
Ed Golly	Steven Miles
Nan Owens	Florence Morgenroth
Jan Eisler	Ed McDougall, Sr.
Anthony Schleifstein	Edwin Corl
Allan Altman	Rebecca Porto
John Xanthopoulos, Ph.,D.	

Upon MOTION duly made by McDougall and SECONDED by Xanthopoulos and carried by unanimous VOTE, the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

**1. President's report.**

The President then gave his annual report to the Board. Treasurer Charles Ross was not present to give the financial report, so Tzanetakos reviewed the financial figures presented in the Annual Report. Discussion ensued regarding membership renewals and how to encourage them. Eisler and Morgenroth agreed to work together to develop a plan to solicit renewals from delinquent members.

Golly MOVED to amend the bylaws to eliminate the position of treasurer for the local chapters. The motion was SECONDED by McDougall. Following discussion, the motion was WITHDRAWN.

Tzanetakos reviewed the status of the Atheists of Florida tax-exempt case currently being considered by the State of Florida Department of Revenue.

**06.01 Membership and Greeting cards.**

Golly MOVED to authorize the expense of up to \$75.00 for production of 1,000 two-color Atheists of Florida membership cards. Tzanetakos SECONDED the motion. Following discussion, a VOTE in favor of the motion was unanimous.

Eisler MOVED to appoint Porto to take charge of greeting card aspect of committee. SECONDED by Xanthopoulos. Tzanetakos made a FRIENDLY AMENDMENT to include production of calendars. A VOTE in favor of the motion was unanimous.

**06.02 Membership expansion committee.**

Representing the membership expansion committee, McDougall gave a report. At the beginning of the committee's formation, he wrote a long letter to committee chairman Strayer describing efforts to expand membership. He received no response. Owens MOVED to add Eisler to the committee. SECONDED by Xanthopoulos. A VOTE in favor of the motion was unanimous.

McDougall MOVED to have Eisler serve as chairman of the Membership Expansion committee. SECONDED by Xanthopoulos. Following discussion, the motion was WITHDRAWN.

**06.03 Cable TV.**

Tzanetakos gave a report on facilities utilizing the *Atheists of Florida Forum* tapes. Miles gave a report on his efforts to have the program shown on the Gainesville, Florida cable public access channel. Miles was provided with a video and will continue with his efforts to have the *Forum* broadcast.

**06.04 Public relations committee**

Tzanetakos gave a report of the various facilities utilizing the Atheists of Florida Forum cable programs.

Miles reported on his efforts to have the Forum broadcast on the Gainesville public access channel. A fee is charged for running programs on that facility. Miles offered to contribute the fees in order to get the programs run. He is to be provided tapes and will pursue the placement of programs on the public access channel.

**06.05 Library committee**

Golly gave a report on the activities of the Library committee. Morgenroth had cataloged all literature collected and three lists of books will be generated as follows:

1. Books available for borrowing by Atheists of Florida members.
2. Books available for sale by Atheists of Florida.
3. Books available for research purposes only to Atheists of Florida members which are considered too rare to loan out.

The listings will be published in our newsletter.

In addition, it is our hope that facilities will become available to provide a reading room for members to utilize our library.

**06.6 The Mark Twain Scholarship Fund, Inc.**

Tzanetakos gave a report on the status of the Twain Scholarship Fund. A tax-exempt status has been received from the Internal Revenue Service, but not from the State of Florida. He will continue to pursue an exempt status from the State of Florida.

**07. NEW BUSINESS**

**07.01 Atheists of Florida Bookstore**

Tzanetakos MOVED for Atheists of Florida to purchase 110 copies of Bertrand Russell's *Why I am not a Christian* at a wholesale cost of \$6.36 each. The motion was SECONDED by Eisler. A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT was proposed by Eisler and accepted by Tzanetakos allowing Eisler to add to the order any quantity she may want to purchase.

VOTE on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Additional discussion led to the formation of a T-shirt committee to design and create shirts for sale by Atheists of Florida. The committee was composed of Corl, Eisler, Owens and Golly.

Upon MOTION duly made by Tzanetakos, SECONDED by Eisler and adopted by unanimous VOTE, Atheists of Florida was authorized to allocate up to \$500 to produce T-shirts as described above.

Following discussion by the Board, it was decided that Atheists of Florida will make an effort to establish a bookstore and promote it in the newsletter or by press release.

**07.02 Perdomo book *The Book of Revelation***

Golly reported that the entire text of Mike Perdomo's book had been scanned into a text file which may be submitted to a printer for composition and printing. Estimates on the cost of a production run are forthcoming.

**07.03 Atheists of Florida Investment Club**

Golly made a MOTION to form the Atheists of Florida Investment Club. The motion was SECONDED by Schliefsstein. Golly described the proposed formation of the club and its purposes while assuring it was not intended to involve any of the Atheists of Florida funds. The Club would be open to members of Atheists of Florida and would be incorporated with the State of Florida. The Club would require a minimum of three members and be limited to a maximum of twenty. The incorporating members would establish the bylaws and determine the Club's investment criteria.

VOTE on the motion was:

Favor - 8    Oppose - 3

The motion to form the Atheists of Florida Investment Club was approved.

Schliefsstein introduced a MOTION to donate a portion of the Atheists of Florida Investment Club profits to Atheists of Florida when and if profits have been generated. The

percentage of profits and the particular segment of A of F to which the donation would be made would be determined by the membership of the Club. The motion was SECONDED by Golly. VOTE on the motion was:

For - 12 Against - 1

The motion was passed.

**07.04 Life memberships in Atheists of Florida, Inc.**

Tzanetakos introduced a MOTION to establish a membership category of Life Member in Atheists of Florida, Inc. The life member fee was established at \$500. The motion was SECONDED by Miles. Discussion of the motion followed. Owens submitted an AMENDMENT to the motion to allow for review of the amount of the life membership fee annually along with the other membership category fees. VOTE on the motion was:

For - 11 Against - 2

The motion was passed.

**07.05 WLRN Studios, Miami Cable-Tap.**

Tzanetakos introduced a MOTION for Atheists of Florida to procure a plaque addressed to WLRN in appreciation of their contributions to the production of the Atheists of Florida Forum cable TV program. SECONDED by Morgenroth. A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT was submitted by Golly to limit expenditure for the plaque to no more than \$50.00. The friendly amendment was accepted by Tzanetakos. Following discussion, VOTE on the motion was unanimously in favor.

**07.06 Atheists of Florida Forum video placement in public libraries.**

Golly introduced a MOTION for Atheists of Florida to authorize an expenditure of up to \$60.00 to reproduce twelve (12) Atheists of Florida Forum videos to submit to the Clearwater Public Library for public borrowing. SECONDED by Morgenroth. VOTE in favor of the motion was unanimous.

**07.07 Dual membership with Humanists Association: St. Petersburg.**

Xanthopoulos introduced a MOTION for Atheists of Florida to offer dual membership status with the Humanists Association: St. Petersburg on a voluntary basis. SECONDED by Eisler. The membership fee would be divided by both organizations, and set at an amount which would be less than individual memberships in the organizations combined. Following discussion on the motion, VOTE was as follows:

Favor: 3 Opposed: 9

The motion was DEFEATED.

**07.08 Atheists of Florida Web page.**

Tzanetakos introduced a MOTION for Atheists of Florida to create and produce its own internet web page provided the cost to operate the page is not more than \$15.00 a month. The

motion was SECONDED by Miles, who also offered to provide funding for the first three (3) months of operation of a web site. VOTE in favor of the motion was unanimous.

**07.09 Election of Officers for 1996-1997 Term.**

Tzanetakos NOMINATED **Dr. John Xanthopoulos – Chairman of the Board**, SECONDED by Golly. With no other nominations, Xanthopoulos was appointed by acclamation.

Morgenroth NOMINATED **Christos Tzanetakos – President**, SECONDED by McDougall. With no other nominations, Tzanetakos was appointed by acclamation.

Golly NOMINATED **Tony Schleifstein – Vice-President**, SECONDED by Owens. With no other nominations, Schleifstein was appointed by acclamation.

Tzanetakos NOMINATED **Ed Golly – Secretary**, SECONDED by McDougall. With no other nominations, Golly was appointed by acclamation.

Tzanetakos NOMINATED **Charles Ross – Treasurer**, SECONDED by Golly. With no other nominations, Ross was appointed by acclamation.

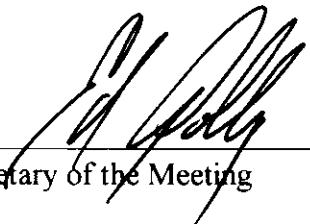
**07.10 Group picture of the Board/new officers**

A group picture of the board members and new officers of Atheists of Florida was taken.

**07.11 Adjournment**

There being no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

DATED this 19th day of May, 1996.

  
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Secretary of the Meeting