

2005

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of Atheists of Florida, Inc. for the year 2005

1. Introduction.

The 2004 annual meeting of the Directors of ATHEISTS OF FLORIDA, INC., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Florida Corporation, was held on Sunday, February 27, 2005 in the conference room of Raytheon Beech Aircraft, 2450 N. Westshore Blvd., Tampa, Florida.

2. Call to order.

Chairman Ed Golly called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

3. Roll Call.

Roll Call was taken and the following Directors were found to be in attendance:

Ed Golly, <i>Chairman/ Treasurer</i>	Alex Giannakoulis, <i>Vice President</i>
Nan Owens	Raymond Erickson
James Peterson	Brent Yaciw, <i>President</i>
Jim Young, <i>Secretary</i>	Joe Reinhardt, <i>Director/Tampa Chapter</i>
Christos Tzanetakos, <i>Chairman/Mark Twain</i>	Gloria Julius
Chyrisse Tabone	Jackie Jordan
Tracy Welch	

The Chairman determined that a quorum was present and proceeded with the meeting.

The following Directors were not in attendance: (Note: The Bylaws stipulate that any Board Member who fails to attend two consecutive Board meetings without acceptable due cause is automatically dismissed from the Board.)

Steven Miles	Anita Garcia
Roberto De Los Rios	Geoff Price <i>Director/Miami Chapter</i>
Judy Ellis	

4. Minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of the 2004 Board Meeting had been previously delivered to all board members. By VOTE of the Board, the minutes were APPROVED.

5. Treasurer's report for the year 2004.

5.1 Atheists of Florida, Inc. —Golly
Golly submitted the following Treasurer's report:

Opening Balance

Checking Account	\$ 3,952.36	
Petty Cash	77.89	
Certificates of Deposit (2.4% June 4, 2006)	1,413.88	
		<u>\$ 5,444.13</u>

Income

Membership Renewals	1,510.00	
New Memberships	930.00	
Life Memberships	2,000.00	
Donations	270.00	
Sales	2,247.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 6,957.00	

Expenses

Contributions:

Twain Scholarship Fund	10.00
Camp Quest	50.00
Credit Card Service	499.00
State solicitation of contributions regist'n	35.00
Postage and Bulk Mail	221.00
Bulk Mail Annual Fee	150.00
Post Office Box Annual Fee	38.00
Printing Newsletters & Flyers	233.30
Printing Bumper Stickers	851.00

Special Events:

Miami Book Fair International	550.00
St. Pete Times Festival of Reading	275.00
Circus McGurkis	20.00
2004 State of Florida Annual Report	61.25
Telephone	428.12
Travel—Auto Rental	112.07
Wholesale Merchandise	2,437.75

TOTAL EXPENSES	5,971.49	
NET INCOME		<u>\$ 985.51</u>

Year-End Balance

Checking Account	5,335.72	
Petty Cash	272.50	
Certificates of Deposit	1,413.88	
		<u>7,022.10</u>

MOTION by Peterson to approve report. By VOTE of the Board, the motion was CARRIED.

5.2 Mark Twain Scholarship Fund. —Tzanetakos

MOTION by Peterson to approve report. By VOTE of the Board, the motion was CARRIED.

6. Atheists of Florida President's report. —Yaciw

7. Mark Twain Scholarship Fund Report. —Tzanetakos

The Mark Twain Scholarship Fund was awaiting election of Trustees to assume directorship of the Fund by the Atheist Alliance International (AAI). In the meantime, Atheists of Florida would continue to elect Trustees. AAI Trustees would then assume management of the Fund and Atheists of Florida Trustees would resign. AAI Trustees would then amend the Bylaws to relinquish control of Fund to AAI.

8. Committee Reports.

8.1 Chapter Formation—Owens/Golly

Several inquiries had been made to Atheists of Florida by persons interested in forming chapters in the Ft. Myers area and the East Coast of Florida. All inquiries were forwarded to the president for follow-up and *Chapter Operations and Guidelines* booklets were mailed to them. The Board expected to continue to work with these inquiries and, if necessary, actually go to their areas for chapter formation meetings.

8.2 Financial Audit—Golly

There was no financial audit or examination of the records for 2004. Golly had thought the audit was to be done only the previous year until reminded by the secretary that the bylaws were changed to require an independent review of the corporation's finances each year regrettably too late for the 2004 board meeting.

It was Golly's intention that Atheists of Florida would elect a new treasurer this year who will go to his office approximately once a month to keep all records for the organization. This would allow him to maintain the checkbook and sign all checks, which would avoid the necessity of changing the signature on the checks, and allow us to cross-check each other's record-keeping. With regular record-keeping, ample time should be allowed for preparation of all financial reports for the organization within the first two weeks of January 2006 and avail the books to an independent reviewer with time to examine them before the 2006 board meeting.

8.3 Budget & Finance—Golly

The revenues of Atheists of Florida had been relatively balanced with expenditures in 2004, but this was primarily due to the fact that Atheists of Florida only published and mailed three newsletters for the year. With our copy machine out of service, probably permanently, Atheists of Florida was spending approximately \$85 to print each newsletter and \$50 to bulk mail each issue. If we continue to outsource the printing of each newsletter and are able to generate the desired eight publications per year, Atheists of Florida can anticipate a cost of \$680 for printing and \$400 for mailing the newsletters for a cost of over \$1,000, compared to a cost of about \$400 for the newsletters published in 2004.

The *Atheist Forum* was beginning to generate new members at a record level that was expected to generate increased income from memberships in the coming year. Several years of experience with our public outreach events had given us the experience to determine what inventory to stock for maximum income from these events, and in 2004 we generated record revenues from these events. We expect to continue to generate these levels of income in 2005.

Therefore we can expect the treasury to be able to meet all financial obligations for 2005.

8.4 Publications committee—Young

No publications were submitted for approval in 2004.

8.5 Fund Raising—Reinhardt

8.6 Organizational Manual—Owens

8.7 Outreach—Young

Reported we're trying to get into Strawberry Festival in 2006.

8.8 Advertising—Golly

In 2003 the *Weekly Planet* had been the primary expenditure of our advertising budget. However, the Advertising Director decided to discontinue print advertising in that publication for two reasons:

1. Advertising rates continued to increase to the point that we would not have an adequate budget for an entire year of classified advertising at the minimum rate available.
2. Atheists of Florida received a continuously increasing rate of response from the *Atheist Forum* and the Internet, which required no expenditures from our treasury.

For 2005 we should focus our advertising budget to promote both *Atheist Forum* programs and any other outreach projects we instigate.

8.9 Public Access TV & Radio

Hillsborough County—Young recommended Golly be elected Project Manager.

Pinellas County—Reinhardt

8.10 Website—Peterson

8.11 Final Bequests—Owens

8.12 Annual Conference—Giannakoulis

Humanists of Florida desired no co-sponsored conference with Atheists of Florida.

9. Old Business.

9.1 Hispanic Chapter Formation—DeLosRios

No progress reported in 2003 or 2004.

9.2 Hispanic Newsletter Formation

No progress reported in 2003 or 2004.

9.3 Internet Domain Names—Yaciw

Suggestions were to be sent to Yaciw and he was to consult with Peterson to decide and purchase six names. No action taken as of this date.

10. New Business

10.1 MOTION by Golly, **SECONDED** to authorize a fund raising effort specifically to purchase a new copy machine for newsletter production. Expenditure for the copy machine shall not exceed the amount of funds raised plus no more than \$1,500 from the treasury. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion was **CARRIED**.

10.2 MOTION by Julius, **SECONDED**, that Atheists of Florida associate with stem cell research to promote the benefits of such through education of the populous. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion **FAILED**.

10.3 MOTION by Julius, to amend the by-laws to allow any chapter in the State of Florida to add qualifying adjectives of their own choice after the name, "Atheists of Florida." Motion **DIED** for lack of a second.

10.4 MOTION by Julius, **SECONDED** to establish a project to keep a scrapbook of items dealing with church state violations. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion **FAILED**.

10.5 MOTION by Julius, to establish a letter-writing project. Motion **WITHDRAWN**

10.6 MOTION by Julius, **SECONDED**, to establish a project to get the IRS to reduce the tax exemptions of churches. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion **FAILED**.

10.7 MOTION by Tabone, **SECONDED**, to award a special recognition certificate once per year for one (1) Atheists of Florida member or Board member (officers are exempt) who had participated unselfishly in volunteer work to promote atheism. During the month of January, Atheists of Florida officers and Board members would nominate via e-mail a qualifying nominee for this special recognition award. In February, the officers would convene and vote to award the recipient with a recognition certificate and a \$50 restaurant gift certificate. The winner of the award would be announced at the Annual Board Meeting.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Young, **SECONDED**, to strike all wording that disqualified Officers and Board Members. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment **FAILED**.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Welch, **SECONDED**, to create two awards, one for Board Members and one for Non-Board Members. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment was **CARRIED**.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Yaciw, **SECONDED**, that the Board Members would elect the Non-Board Member recipient and the General Membership would elect the Board Member recipient. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment was **CARRIED**.

The motion was called to a **VOTE** and the motion was **CARRIED**.

10.8 MOTION by Peterson, **SECONDED**, to amend the Bylaws of the organization to replace the language of **ARTICLE II PURPOSES** with the language on the sheet he distributed to the Board.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Yaciw, **SECONDED**, that instead of amending the Bylaws, the language would be appended to the Bylaws to make more concise the purposes of the organization. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment was **CARRIED**.

The motion was called to a **VOTE** and the motion was **CARRIED**.

11.0 Annual Conference 2006.

The Board considered the prospect of holding a Conference in 2006 and electing a Project Manager for the 2006 Annual Conference. A **MOTION** was submitted by Yaciw, **SECONDED**, for Atheists of Florida to hold a conference in 2006.

By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion was **CARRIED**.

12.0 Miscellaneous Proposals.

12.1 MOTION by Tzanetakos, **SECONDED**, to produce the booklet "Simplified Parliamentary Procedure" for dissemination to the current and future Board Members along with a copy of the organization's booklet of its Bylaws.

Following discussion, an **AMENDMENT** was submitted by Tzanetakos and **SECONDED** to change the word "produce" to "provide." By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment was **CARRIED**.

The motion was called to a **VOTE** and the motion was **CARRIED**.

12.2 MOTION by Owens, **SECONDED**, to form a public relations project to place notices in appropriate publications, write and distribute news releases, etc. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion was **CARRIED**.

12.3 MOTION by Golly, **SECONDED**, to discontinue efforts to accomplish the following two items of old business: 9.1 Hispanic chapter formation and; 9.2 Production of an Hispanic newsletter. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion was **CARRIED**.

12.4 MOTION by Golly, **SECONDED**, to require the President of Atheists of Florida to contact each standing project manager a minimum of every three months to obtain a quarterly report. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion was **CARRIED**.

12.5 MOTION by Young, **SECONDED**, to form a Project to formulate the desired wording for **ARTICLE II** of the Bylaws using the existing wording and the wording the Board had appended to the Bylaws at this meeting. This project would be headed by Peterson as Project Manager, and composed of other members of the Board who wanted to be a part of it. The Secretary was directed to include a motion to amend the Bylaws and substitute the proposed wording on the Agenda of the annual Board Meeting for 2006. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion was **CARRIED**.

12.6 MOTION by Golly, **SECONDED**, to require the President to provide a report for each newsletter. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion **FAILED**.

12.7 MOTION by Reinhardt, **SECONDED**, to rescind the motion carried at the previous annual Board Meeting concerning the library and either sell or give away the books possessed by the Atheists of Florida library.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Young, **SECONDED**, to eliminate references to rescinding the previous year's motion and revise the motion to simply authorize the selling or giving away the books. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment was **CARRIED**.

The motion was called to a **VOTE** and the motion was **CARRIED**.

12.8 MOTION by Reinhardt, **SECONDED**, to purchase broadcast time on WTAN Radio for an *Atheist Forum* radio program. Cost would be \$125.00 per hour. Time of show was tentatively projected to be 10 to 11 pm.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Young, **SECONDED**, to fund this show only if the funds were donated to Atheists of Florida for this specific purpose. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment **FAILED**.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Yaciw, **SECONDED** to make this a 13-week pilot project that would continue only if the project was financially self-sustaining. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment **FAILED**.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Yaciw, **SECONDED**, to make this a 13-week pilot project that would continue only if the project did not exceed the established advertising budget in cost. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment was **CARRIED**.

MOTION to **AMEND** by Young, **SECONDED**, to budget \$1,000.00 instead of the advertising budget for this project. By **VOTE** of the Board, the amendment was **CARRIED**.

The motion was called to a **VOTE** and the motion was **CARRIED**.

12.9 MOTION by Julius, **SECONDED**, to amend the Bylaws to specify that Atheists of Florida would not support any advertising that is insulting or demeaning to any group. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion **FAILED**.

12.10 MOTION by Julius that all members of the Board of Atheists of Florida receive a certificate of recognition. Motion **DIED** for lack of a second.

12.11 MOTION by Julius, **SECONDED**, to have a Web Live-chat where callers could and would pay a membership or user fee and donations could be solicited. By **VOTE** of the Board, the motion **FAILED**.

12.12 MOTION by Giannakoulis, SECONDED, that the newsletter would henceforth be sent via e-mail in the form of a PDF file and posted on the Web site. A printed copy would be sent to those Atheists of Florida members lacking e-mail capability.

MOTION to AMEND by Young, SECONDED, that Atheists of Florida would allocate up to \$1,000.00 to purchase the necessary software to publish this document and convert to PDF. By VOTE of the Board, the amendment was CARRIED.

The motion was called to a VOTE and the motion was CARRIED.

13.0 Election of Chairman & Officers.

13.1 Chairman.

Peterson NOMINATED Ed Golly, SECONDED. Golly accepted the nomination. Lacking any further nominations, Golly was appointed Chairman by acclamation.

13.2 President.

Tzanetakos NOMINATED Joe Reinhardt, SECONDED. Reinhardt accepted the nomination.

Peterson NOMINATED Brent Yaciw, SECONDED. Yaciw accepted the nomination.

By VOTE of the Board, Joe Reinhardt was ELECTED President.

13.3 Vice President.

Reinhardt NOMINATED Brent Yaciw, SECONDED. Yaciw accepted the nomination. Lacking any further nominations, Yaciw was APPOINTED Vice president by acclamation.

13.4 Treasurer.

Golly NOMINATED Tracy Welch, SECONDED. Welch accepted the nomination. Lacking any further nominations, Welch was APPOINTED Treasurer by acclamation.

13.5 Secretary.

Tzanetakos NOMINATED James A. Young, SECONDED. Young accepted the nomination. Lacking any further nominations, Young was APPOINTED Secretary by acclamation.

14.0 Election of Mark Twain Trustees.

Tzanetakos NOMINATED the following to serve as Trustees for the Mark Twain Scholarship Fund, Inc.:

Christos Tzanetakos

Alex Giannakoulis

Raymond Erickson

Steven Miles

Nan Owens

All nominees accepted their nominations. Lacking any further nominations, all nominees were APPOINTED by acclamation.

15.0 Project Manager Nominations & Elections.

15.1 Project Manager for Public Access Television and/or Radio for Pinellas County, Florida.

Young NOMINATED Joe Reinhardt, SECONDED. Reinhardt accepted the nomination. Lacking any further nominations, Reinhardt was APPOINTED by acclamation.

15.2 Project Manager for Public Access Television and/or Radio for Hillsborough County, Florida.

Young NOMINATED Ed Golly, SECONDED. Golly accepted the nomination. Lacking any further nominations, Golly was APPOINTED by acclamation.

15.3 Project Manager for Public Relations.

Reinhardt NOMINATED Brent Yaciw, SECONDED. Yaciw accepted the nomination. Lacking any further nominations, Yaciw was APPOINTED by acclamation.

15.4 Project Manager for Annual Conference.

Yaciw NOMINATED Nan Owens, SECONDED. Owens accepted the nomination. Lacking any further nominations, Owens was APPOINTED by acclamation.

16.0 Wrap Up And Adjournment.

Following closing comments by the Chairman, MOTION to adjourn was made by Yaciw, SECONDED, and CARRIED by unanimous VOTE.

DATED this 27th day of February, 2005

James A. Young
Secretary of the Meeting

Atheists of Florida 2005 Board Meeting Recap

- 10.1 **Copy Machine**
Authorization of a fund raising effort to purchase a new copy machine for newsletter production.
- 10.7 **Special recognition certificates**
Two special recognition certificates will be awarded each year, one for a Board Member and one for a Non-Board Member. The Board Members will elect the Non-Board Member recipient and the General Membership will elect the Board Member recipient. Nominations will be conducted by e-mail during the month of January. In February the officers will convene and vote to award the recognition certificates and a \$50.00 restaurant gift certificate.
- 10.8 **Bylaws Amendment**
Language expanding ARTICLE II PURPOSES will be appended to the Bylaws to make more concise the purposes of the organization.
- 11.0 **Annual Conference 2006**
Atheists of Florida will hold a conference in 2006.
- 12.1 **Simplified Parliamentary Procedure booklet**
The *Simplified Parliamentary Procedure* booklet will be provided to current and future Board Members along with a copy of the Atheists of Florida Bylaws booklet.
- 12.2 **Public Relations Project**
Established to place notices in appropriate publications and write and distribute news releases.
- 12.3 **Discontinue Hispanic Chapter formation and Hispanic newsletter production**
- 12.4 **Quarterly reports by project managers**
The President of A of F will contact each standing project manager a minimum of every three months to obtain a quarterly report.
- 12.5 **Revised wording for ARTICLE II of the Bylaws**
Jim Peterson established Project Manager to compose amended wording for ARTICLE II of the Bylaws. Secretary will include a motion to amend the Bylaws accordingly at the 2006 Board Meeting.
- 12.7 **Sale or distribution of A of F library books**
Authorizes sale or distribution of books.
- 12.8 **ForumRADIO**
- 12.12 **E-mail production of newsletter**
Authorizes allocation of up to \$1,000 to purchase the software to produce the newsletter in PDF form and distribute by e-mail.
- 15.1 **Reinhardt Project Manager for Public Access TV and/or Radio for Pinellas County**
- 15.2 **Golly Project Manager for Public Access TV and/or Radio for Hillsborough County**
- 15.3 **Yaciw Project Manager for Public Relations**
- 15.4 **Owens Project Manager for 2006 Annual Conference**

—END—

Atheists of Florida

Projects

February 2005

Publications Committee 497—7.03

Purpose: To screen, edit and approve manuscripts for publication by Atheists of Florida. Three of four members must vote to approve any publication.

Members: *Chair: Jim Young*

Projects

Membership Expansion 11/94—8 Dissolved 204—10.4.4

Fund Raising 11/94—10

Purpose: 1. To create a monthly leaflet for the newsletter
2. To solicit funds from other foundations.

Project Manager: Joe Reinhardt 203—9.3.2

Library 11/94—11 Dissolved 204—10.4.1

Organizational Manual Project 12/97 SPL—4

Purpose: To draft a manual to guide the organization of new Atheists of Florida chapters.

Project Manager: Nan Owens

Meeting Facilities Project 1099—8.5

Purpose: To locate meeting facilities for chapters or board meetings for Atheists of Florida, Inc.

Project Manager: Patrick Bens

Outreach Committee 1099—8.7

Purpose: To organize and engage in board approved outreach activities that promote and nurture atheism.

Project Manager: Jim Young

Advertising 500—8.7

Purpose: To assume responsibility for advertising and find a source of funds other than regular funds.

Project Manager: Ed Golly

Cable TV 500—8.14

Purpose: To establish a public access Cable TV weekly program.

Project Manager: Pinellas County—Joe Reinhardt 204—12.1

Project Manager: Hillsborough County—Ed Golly 205—15.2

Annual Conference 205—11

Purpose: To hold an Annual Conference in 2006.

Project Manager: Nan Owens 205—15.4

ARTICLE II Wording 205—12.5

Purpose: To formulate the desired wording for ARTICLE II of the Bylaws.

Project Manager: Jim Peterson

Public Relations 205—12.2

Purpose: To place notices in appropriate publications, write and distribute news releases, etc.

Project Manager: Brent Yaciw

—END—

Atheists of Florida, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Directors' terms are three years. This roster will serve until September 2007

Board Members as of September 2004

ERICKSON, Raymond <i>Trustee/Mark Twain</i>	3120 N A1A Unit 501 / Ft. Pierce, FL 34949	772 / 465-8189
ELLIS, Judy	1874 Jaarez Way S / St Petersburg FL 33712 judyellis@verizon.net	727 / 864-3957
GARCIA, Anita	7037 Sunset Dr So #602 / St Petersburg FL 33707 anmigarcia@aol.com	727 / 381-3933
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