

**Friends of Burkina Faso
November 29, 2007
Conference Call Minutes**

- I. Introductions**
 - a. Current board members and committee leaders were introduced to each other.**
- II. New Organizational Structure**
 - a. The leadership of Friends of Burkina Faso has been expanded, in order to spread out the workload, get more people involved, and make the organization more sustainable.**
 - b. The organization will be operated by several different groups:**
 - i. Executive Board**
 - ii. Membership**
 - iii. Community Relations**
 - iv. Technology/Website**
 - c. Kristie will set up training calls with each group, as well as certain individual leaders.**
 - d. Most communication will occur through email and through the listserv.**
 - e. Individuals should request deadlines for responses when they make requests to ensure that people respond.**
- III. Projects Outreach**
 - a. There are currently five primary funded projects**
 - i. Garden marketing Kongoussi**
 - ii. HIV/AIDS**
 - iii. Integrated Farming**
 - iv. Primary Education**
 - v. Middle School Education**
 - vi. \$43,000 has been spent on these projects**
 - b. The projects committee would like to both maintain current projects and diversify into new areas**
 - c. The projects committee would like to find people to fill three additional positions**
 - i. Communications in Field**
 - ii. Marketing**
 - iii. Burkinabe Associate to Identify Projects**
- IV. Treasurer**

- a. Suzanne Plopper has taken over for John Dickey
- b. For this year, FBF currently has income of \$57,280 and expenses of \$71,000. This is the first time in years that the organization has run a deficit. It is hoped that the winter fundraising will help resolve this.
- c. The annual fundraising letter is in the mail.
- d. The school lunch program has raised \$12,000 through global giving.

V. Next three months

a. Newsletter/Mailings

- i. The newsletter has been sent out to 296 FBF members in the States and 17 members internationally.
- ii. There is a need to buy a full version of the newsletter software
- iii. Membership renewal letters need to be sent in January
- iv. A discussion is needed about whether to consolidate future mailings

b. Website

- i. NPCA will eventually be developing an umbrella website to help serve local chapters. Until that happens, however, the current website needs updates.
- ii. The consensus is that the current website needs to be simplified to make updates easier to managee.
- iii. Updates should be sent to John
- iv. John will organize a conference call/illuminate session to work on the website
- v. There is also a need to update the back office functions of the website, but that is way in the future

VI. To do

- a. Each board member and committee leader needs to set up a generic gmail account for communications with membership. This should be done within a week.
- b. Kristie will email each functional group to schedule training calls.

VII. Amazing Race

- a. There was general agreement that dumping a bunch of Tuareg's on the Mossi plateau for a challenge was kind of ridiculous.
- b. The dust storm was authentic.

