

Friends of Mali  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, July 26, 2003  
2:30 p.m.

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## Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Jumana, Jenna, Jeff, Allison, Matt and Andrew as an observer

**Absent:** Sabrina

### I. Old Business

#### A. Folk Life Festival

Went very well, thanks to everyone involved. The next step should be to make sure we document everything that happened. Those with photos in particular should send them to Jeff with a description of the event and display it on the website.

There has been interest in keeping the momentum of the Folk Life Festival going from the Smithsonian and USAID. It's exciting to think about the potential collaboration between our organizations even if informally. While we have no specific meetings planned, we'll remain open to the possibility.

T-shirts were a hit! We still have about 50 left and will send them on website. Allison will send a photo of the t-shirt image to Jeff to put on the website. Depending on how these t-shirts sell on line, we can potentially make t-shirts with new designs and baseball hats.

The Malian association is having a thank you dinner for Friends of Mali on August 10, 2003.

#### B. By Laws

In order to submit our application for exemption we have to have bylaws. We voted to accept the bylaws that Matt developed by a vote of 5 – 0 with one abstention from absence (Sabrina). Sabrina will be asked to vote via e-mail.

### II. New Business

- A. PCV Zack Merrill – Jumana sent a condolence e-mail to the Mali desk offering our assistance for commemorating Zack. Zack's family is starting a Zack Merrill fund through Peace Corps Partnership that we'll inform our members of on the website.

**B. Introducing Andrew Mitchell**

Andrew Mitchell, a former regional rep who is now in grad school in Boston has expressed interest in joining the board of FOM. He has proposed to create a membership development position where he will focus on how to increase people's interest in visiting the website as well as becoming members of FOM. The bylaws have been written such that it is possible for the President to add ad hoc members of the board as necessary.

**C. Newsletter - Sabrina**

Allison will write a report of FOM's involvement in the Folk Life Festival.

**III. Other**

Louise Meyer is the owner of website that highlights artisans from Africa. She is trying to promote solar cookers in Mali and is looking for FOM's support. She will write an article about her organization's effort for either the newsletter or the website.

**Next meeting:** September 13, 2003 1 pm