

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF CEDAR RAPIDS/IOWA CITY
General Meeting, March 9, 2008

Meeting was called to order by the president, Tressa Youngbear. Guests were introduced by the members.

MINUTES: Motion was made by Richard Bice and seconded by Phyllis Seidl that the minutes of the last meeting be approved. Motion carried.

BY-LAWS: Stephanie explained the proposed changes in the by-laws, the most notable the change in membership fees to \$10 per individual member, effective at the time of approval of the by-laws. Motion made by Steve Williams and seconded by Vic Klopfenstein, that the by-laws be Accepted. Motion passed. Changes will be made and clean copies will be sent to members via e-mail.

MEMBERSHIP/PROMTION: Vic welcomed guests and suggested contacting Tressa if anyone is interested in membership, Diane explained the brochure available next month.

WEB SITE: Darby explained that it is up and running, she will add more to the calendar: www.friendshipforce.cr.ic.org

PROGRAMS: Connie Williams announced the next meeting to be May 4th. Announcement will be on the web site.

EXCHANGES: Tressa, Exchange Director for Germany, announced that everything is "go" for the trip. She introduced a guest, Lorna Richards who is coordinator of exchange students. She in turn introduced two German boys who are currently exchange students, who spoke to the group and also answered questions.

Steve Williams talked about the incoming exchange from Germany in August. They are scheduled to visit Long Island and Milwaukee, arriving August 2nd. August 15th they are expected in Cedar Rapids. He will need host families for this exchange, explained what host families do, also mentioning that day hosts are also a need and a possibility for members to consider. There may be an Open World program from Russia in October, but that is not finalized as yet.

Mystery Week-end is scheduled for a week-end this fall. The participants will not know where they are going.

Outgoing exchange possibly to Peru in spring of 2009. Diane Karal mentioned there may be visa problems.

OLD BUSINESS: May 3rd is the Regional President's meeting in Des Moines. Our VP - Darby Anderson will attend the International Conference in Australia.

NEW BUSINESS: Friendship Force charges \$25 per person-to go on an exchange. The Board voted to put money left over from those fees into the exchange fund.

New goals for 2009 were presented and approved.

Next Sunday, March 16th, 2 PM there is a film festival at Kirkwood on Vietnam. There is an outgoing exchange going there April 15 to May 1st.

April 22 is LEO at Rutters in North Liberty, (NW of rec center).

SILENT AUCTION: Procedure for bidding on items was explained by Diane.

Meeting adjourned and a fine feast of Irish Stew and trimmings was enjoyed by all!

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Thulin, Sec'y