

Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Friendship Force
General Meeting
Marion Heritage Center
Sept. 15, 2013

A general meeting of the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Friendship Force club was held at 2:00 PM Sunday, Sept. 15 at the Marion Heritage Center. About 35 members were in attendance.

Co-Pres. Dick Hildebrand welcomed the members. Co-Pres Veta Hildebrand conducted a short business meeting. Due to some issues with IRS over reporting Dale Moore, Mike Karal, Audrey Bradford and others have been working on reinstating the club's 501c3 status. To move forward Dale recommends two changes to the by-laws. One will change the date of completion of the financial books at the end of the year to prepare for audit and the other will instruct the Treasurer to prepare and file an annual Federal tax return with the IRS. Tressa Youngbear moved the adoption of the by-law changes, Mary Stull seconded. The motion carried. New revised by-laws for the club will be available on the web site and a copy can be obtained from club officers.

Dave Detwiler reported on the Brazil exchange which begins with a Sunday, Sept. 22 potluck at the Marion Heritage Center and ends with a dessert farewell at the Heritage Center on Friday Sept. 27. All members are invited to these and other events.

Tressa Youngbear reported on the Charlottesville, VA domestic exchange which begins with an Amtrak train ride to Charlottesville Oct. 8 and ends with the return trip Oct. 18. The Wessex England club will be joining the CR club in a joint exchange.

Members were asked to choose their favorite exchange destinations for 2015 by writing three preferred exchanges on a piece of paper. Tressa indicated that we have an invitation for a return exchange with the Niagara, Canada club and it would make sense to list that club as our number one choice.

The program was presented by members of the club who were ambassadors on the April Indonesia exchange. A video DVD prepared by ambassador and former CR resident Lynn VanHorne and her husband Kurth Chin Fatt, was shown followed by questions and answers and comments by Laurie Johnson, Donna Ironside, Joe Ironsdie, Nancy Williams and Steve Williams.

The meeting was closed with ice cream and brownies, cookies and pumpkin bars.

The next general meeting is the Annual meeting Nov. 10. Details to follow.

The next board meeting is Oct. 6 at 1 PM at the Hiawatha Library.