

**Minutes for
Friendship Force Board of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City
January 4, 6:30 PM, Home of Mary Stull**

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Stull.

The minutes from the December 7, 2015 Board Meeting were approved on a motion by Marian and second by Alice.

Treasurer's Report-Stephanie

- a. The General Fund balance is \$12,318.55 and exchange fund is \$4,133.28 as of 12/31/15
- b. Treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Larry and a second by Alice.
- c. The bi-annual registration with the Secretary of State is not due until 2017
- d. Winston Edson did an audit review and made no suggestion for change.
- e. Information for the federal data report should be available after Jan. 9th
- f. The conversion to the Quicken system went easy, but the learning curve is progressing

Presidents Report-Mary

- a. The General Meeting is January 10 at the Ladd Library beginning at 1:30 PM. The program will be Steve Williams on running a global exchange and Myron and Connie Williams on themed exchanges—Japan & Australia
- b. Leo is February 10th at a Chinese restaurant. Mary Stull will decide.
- c. General Meeting March 6th with pot luck dinner in Schueyville.
- d. Next board meeting is March 21st.
- e. The Midwest and Great Lakes Conference is April 29 to May 1 in Davenport. Thursday night starts with a social and conference on Friday and Saturday with a Presidents meeting on Sunday morning.
- f. Shirley is working on the April Leo
- g. All Iowa Picnic is July 17 in Des Moines
- h. Board meeting is July 25th
- i. General Meeting August 7th.
- j. Board meeting August 29th.
- k. Club goals were sent to the board by email and briefly discussed.

Committee Reports

Membership: Marian

- a. Lost three members, now have 81. Twenty have not yet paid dues.

Activities: Shirley

- a. World Friendship Day is March 6th at Schueyville United Methodist Church starting at 1PM. Help needed to set up from noon to 1PM.

Exchanges: Connie

- a. Outgoing exchange to Wessex England is June 5-12 (Marian Wetjen is ED)
- b. Incoming exchange from Nasika Riverside, India July 2-8. Steve Williams and Dale Moore were approved as ED's on a motion by Stephanie and seconded by Alice. Twenty people will be coming including 15 & 17 year olds. Madison, Wisc. will pick up the group in Dubuque on July 8th.
- c. Outgoing overnight to Ames is July 16th. They have offered a couple of options for the day along with a wine bar at 4:30 and dinner at 6:00
- d. The outgoing exchange to Lansing Michigan September 11-17 will host 20 people.
- e. Outgoing overnight exchange to Quad Cities possibly in August.
- f. Sacramento exchange wants two weeks, but nobody in the region has stepped up.
- g. Incoming themed exchange, Crazy for Quilting-September 30 to October 5th. (Connie Williams, ED)

Communication: Dale unable to attend but sent this report

Friendship Force CR/IC
Communications Committee Plan for 2016

Prepared by Dale Moore 12-06-15

Last Update 01-04-16

Current plan of focus is as follows:

1. **Program and Speaking Engagements** - Obtain program or speaking engagements at service clubs and other organizations. The purpose is to make more persons aware of Friendship Force and attract new members.

Progress: Already have one set up at a PEO group in April. My goal is to prepare a presentation (probably PowerPoint) while in Florida this winter, but first need to find out what Victor already has prepared.

2. **Guidelines and Hoopla** - Post upcoming events in the Guidelines and Hoopla publications. The purpose is to attract non-members to our General Meetings and other appropriate activities. This is intended to promote more awareness of Friendship Force and potentially attract new members.

Progress: The January 10 meeting is posted on line, but it is currently not clear how to get in the printed publications. I plan to visit the Gazette during the week of February 8 to learn more about getting these posting in the printed Guidelines and Hoopla

- 3. Local Media** - Communicate upcoming exchanges, open world events, and other major events to local media (Gazette, Marion Times, IC Press Citizen, KCRG, KGAN).

Progress: No progress at this time. India incoming exchange and Ukraine open world are two prime opportunities. The first step is to make initial contact and determine processes for accomplishing such. My goal is to work on this by email or phone communications while in Florida this winter.

- 4. Social Media** - Find a resource equipped to help us establish sustainable processes to use Facebook effectively.

Progress: No progress at this time.

- 5. Website** - Understand that Tressa Youngbear will be working on content for past exchanges and that Veta will continue to review new content.

Progress: I will communicate by email with Tressa, and Veta to determine what, if any, role the Communications Committee can serve in regards to the website.

- 6. Committee** - Establish a committee with the purpose of determining and implementing new strategies and improving old strategies that work. Creating a committee allows tapping into ideas of others and gets more members involved in club work.

Progress: No progress at this time. I do plan to meet with Victor - - hopefully during the week of February 8. Perhaps I should do an article for the next newsletter that will reach out to other members and perhaps yield volunteers.

Open World Updates-Connie

- Government Transparency/Access to Public Information. Program will have 5 delegates from Ukraine, 1 facilitator and 1 Interpreter. Steve Williams and Vic Klopfenstein will lead this program.
- Moldova Small Town Mayors will probably not take place.

President Elect

- Will do newsletter on the 1st of each month. Information for the newsletter needs to be submitted by the 20th of the previous month.
- Looking at possible fund raising opportunities.

Next meeting is March 21st at 6:30 PM at the Stull residence.

Meeting Adjourned.

Jerry & Carol Burke
Secretaries