

**Minutes for
Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City
General Meeting
January 15, 2017 1:30pm, HACAP Hiawatha**

The meeting was called to order by Co-Presidents Jean & Dean Thomas.

Approximately 50 members were present with five guests.

The minutes from the November 13, 2016 Annual Meeting were approved on a motion by Mary Stull and a second by Vic Klopfenstein.

Treasurer's Report- Jean for Stephanie

- a. A motion to accept the 2015 fiscal year-end Financial Report and January Treasurer's Report was made by Diane Karal and seconded by Alice Wilkinson. Motion passed. The available balance is \$19,064.98.
- b. Jean presented the final 2016 budget as approved by the Board at the Jan. 7, 2017 meeting. The total expenditures budgeted are \$8,680 and income of \$4,460 for a net of -\$4,220. There was some concern by members that the total balance (\$19,064.98) is relatively high for a non-profit organization and we should look for more opportunities to fund FF activities. A motion to accept the final 2016 budget was made by Diane Karal and seconded by Alice Wilkinson. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Membership: Marian

Current membership is 83. Several members are delinquent in dues payment.

Activities: Shirley

The General Meeting called World Friendship Day will be held at Shueyville UMC on Sunday Feb. 26. Mary prepared a flyer and we are to invite international students. Every member is to bring an international-themed dish to share.

Exchanges: Jean for Connie

- a. The Lower Columbia Washington incoming exchange will be two weeks with the first in Madison, WI and the second with us. It will be in mid-September 2017. An ED is needed for this exchange.
- b. The incoming exchange with Sacramento CA. is in May 1-9, 2017. On May 7 and 8 the Ambassadors and hosts will travel to Springfield IL. to visit Lincoln Library etc. After an overnight stay, they will return to Cedar Rapids for an outbound flight on May 9. Dave and Patty Detwiler are the Exchange Directors.
- c. The outgoing 2017 exchange to Taiwan will be November 1-15 visiting the cities of Taipei and Kaohsiung. Mary Stull is the Exchange Director and applications for Ambassadors is encouraged. The maximum number of Ambassadors is 20.
- d. Our 2018 outbound exchange request to Friendship Force International was submitted: 1. Germany, 2. Canada 3. Estonia 4. Slovakia.
- e. Connie is discussing a short one or two-day outgoing exchange with the Quad Cities and an incoming short exchange with Ames.

Communications:

- a. Dale is putting together a committee to help with Communications.

Open World Updates:

We are happy to report that our club is hosting an Open World Exchange from Turkmenistan on Sept. 15-23, 2017 to study journalism. Steve Williams and Dale Moore are co-leaders of this exchange.

President Elect: Jean/Dean

Jean and Dean are actively trying to recruit a President Elect for the program year.

Presidents Report: Jean/Dean

- a. The next LEO will be at 9:00am Jan. 28 at Riley's on Boyson Road. Jim & Barb will host a LEO on April 6 at the Parlor City Pub & Eatery. Marian will host the June LEO.
- b. The Quad Cities Club will host the All-Iowa picnic next summer.
- c. The Friendship Force 40th Anniversary World Conference in Manchester, England. The conference begins on August 25 and lasts through August 28. The financial budget includes funds to send both the Club President and Exchange Director.

Program: Angie Albright, Food Reservoir Operations Manager, provided an overview of the various HACAP programs to feed individuals in our community. The office serves 7 counties with 5.1M pounds of food annually. The HACAP network includes 107 partner agencies. Over 40% of the food bank clients are veterans of the armed forces. There is a great need as one in eight people go to bed hungry each day.

The next Board meeting is 9:30am Feb. 18, 2017 at the Marion Downtown Library.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Jim & Barb Steggall

Co-Secretaries