

Friendship Force Board Meeting  
October 16, 2018 at 5:30-7:30pm  
Cedar Rapids Public Library

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In attendance: Jim Steggall Judy Miner, John Miner, Rosie Russell, Marian Wetjen, Connie Williams, Mary Stull, Shirley Rosencrans, Audrey Bradford

Absent: Barb Steggall, Jean and Dean Thomas, Mary Ann and Larry Nelson, and Jerry Burke.

1. Welcome and review agenda- Jim

2. Minutes of June meeting – Jim for Larry & MaryAnn

Motion to accept minutes by Judy and seconded by Marian

3. Treasurer's Report– Jim for Jerry

Journey Treasury \$8581.76, including payment for upcoming Open World.

General Treasury \$14,847.66

- Electronic Payments and SignUp Genius are both on an unofficial trial for this year and seem to be working well so far. Jerry will update the board at the next meeting.

4. President's Report

- Calendar for remainder of 2018

- Annual Meeting Nov. 4 at the Longbranch

Steve: Introduction of Ukrainian guests and overview of the OW activities planned

Dale Moore: Updates from FFI and recent retreats and training

MaryAnn: Recap of New Zealand Journey

Connie: Plans for 2019

Jim: Strategic Planning Goals and Brazil Journey

- Strategic Planning: Goals for 2018-2020—Board discussed Jim's outline of goals for 2018-2020 and made some revisions. Connie moved and Judy seconded a motion to go forward with the few changes. These will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

5. President Elect- John & Judy

- Newsletter- John to issue one more newsletter this year.

- Fundraising- none

- Nominations There is still no one willing to take the nomination for President-elect for next year. The Nominations Comm continues to seek candidates.

6. Past Presidents – N/A

7. Committee Reports

a. Membership – Marian – 66 members

- 2019 dues will stay the same for next year and are due by Dec. 1. FFI will increase the dues by \$5 per person in 2020.

b. Activities – Shirley – Welcome and Farewell for NZ went well and were well received.

c. Journeys – Connie

New Zealand Recap –Mary Ann will do at Annual meeting

Open World- Nov. 2-10 Ukraine: Elections (Steve Williams/Jim)—Steve, Vic, Jim and Dale Moore

Open World 2019 request: options: Azerbaijan: Climate and Ag Oct.30

Armenia: Parliament Nov. 12, Kosovo: Tourism and Parliament. Jim to respond to FFI on Oct. 17.

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2019 Journeys- Brazil (Outbound)- Jim—need Ambassadors, possibly MN will join our club

Japan (Inbound)- Connie – Sept 4-10 , need Host Coordinator

Outgoing domestic journey to Louisville, KY May 14-19, 2019 recommend we select a mix of new and experienced ambassadors

Connie submitted our Journey requests for 2020:

1) New Zealand, since we will have two clubs who have stayed here

2) “Anywhere in Europe” so we could add a second week to Kosovo, to help with a new club, or to Czech Republic or Slovakia because of our local interest.

There are possibilities for domestic journey with Dallas, Albuquerque, and Louisville (maybe 2021)

Kosovo update/Funding request- Connie presented Steve’s request for financial support from our club to send two people to join the Des Moines Sister City trip to Kosovo in the spring so help them establish a FF club.

There was a positive response from the board. There will be more discussion about this possibility when working on the 2019 budget.

d. Communications – Mary

- Webmaster transition She is trying to get together with Laura Thomas to further this.

She developing an “elevator” brief speech for anyone to answer questions about what FF is.

She will bring brochures for any members to give out.

8. Other Business

- FFI request for donation to Annual Fund. There was discussion of the amount to send and if the annual fund is the best destination for our gift.

Jim will talk with Dale Moore, the Midwest Field Rep, for his opinion.

Jim will send out an email with a proposal for the board to vote on this decision.

9. Summary, Next Meeting November 4, 2018, Annual Meeting,  
Longbranch, 5:00pm