

**Friendship Force Board Meeting**  
**April 11, 2018 at 6:00-8:00pm**  
**Scooter's Coffee**  
**2300 Edgewood Road SW, Cedar Rapids, IA**

In attendance: Jim Steggall, Barb Steggall, Mary Stull, John Miner, Judy Miner, Connie Williams, Audrey Bradford, Shirley Rosencrans, Mary Ann Nelson, Larry Nelson, Jerry Burke, Rosie Russell  
Absent: Jean Thomas, Dean Thomas, Marian Wetjen

**1. Welcome and review agenda- Jim & Barb**

In new business need to add a general meeting.

**2. Minutes of January meeting – Larry & MaryAnn**

Amend: January minutes, # 5 Journeys – Incoming Albuquerque, NM to read a member from Albuquerque wants to bring a dog.

Minutes approved with amendment: Moved by Mary, Seconded by Jerry

**3. Treasurer's Report– Jerry**

- **Status of new checking account** new balance \$13,409.07

- **General and Exchange Fund balances** Jerry presented the Expense sheet as of 4/11/18 He finds it more efficient and usable to enter data in an Excel Spread Sheet. He is struggling with Quicken but will enter final this data in a final form in Quicken. We are now using Community Savings Bank. He has closed the accounts with US Bank. On the back of the Expense sheet he showed the Journey costs broken into categories. There was a discussion that every couple of years extra money from this fund may be moved to the general fund.

John moved and Audrey seconded. Treasury Report approved.

**4. President's Report – Jim & Barb**

- **Regional Conference Covington, KY April 20-21, 2018.**

**Information sharing (Policies, Bylaws, Newsletters, New Member Orientation materials, etc.)** Selected materials will be shared on line for the purpose of access by other clubs. At the sharing meeting Thursday evening there will be an orientation packet giving this information.

Attending the conference will be Jim and Barb Steggall, John and Judy Miner, Dale and Cheryl Moore, Connie Williams, Mary Ann Nelson

There will be a 9:00 AM Sunday meeting in the hotel Derby room on the potential of adding clubs specifically focusing on Kosovo. Dave Kalen from Milwaukee and a couple of members, Dave and Pat Meyer, from the N. Illinois Club will be leading us in this discussion. The Des Moines Club will also be joining us since they have been involved in the Open World.

- **30-year Club Anniversary**

It will be commemorated at a general meeting.

Jim received a congratulatory letter from Jeremy Snook of Friendship Force International for our 30-year anniversary. Mary will post it on the website.

- **General Meeting April 29 2-4pm, Hiawatha Public Library (Presentation by Regional Conference Attendees and Dale Moore, Regional Field Rep)**

Attendees from the April Conference will present a topic of interest. Food: 2 – 3 people will bring cookies and lemonade (Need to double check that this is ok to bring food and drink into the library)

- **All Iowa Picnic Ames, IA June 2, 2018**

We will see these people at the Super Conference for more updates. Roger Bertleson from Ames will be in touch with needed information.

## **5. President Elect- John & Judy**

- **Newsletter**

The Goal is to have the newsletter out the first of each month – if updates are needed, send them out.

Password discussion: Mary can provide the password. There are bookmarks for members that have the password printed on them. They can be passed out again at appropriate places.

Potential articles: 1. Articles from FFI newsletter 2. Stories from conference seminars by member attendees 3. Stories from peoples' journeys.

Print the newsletter not needing a password: Discuss with Pat and Darby about printing the newsletter where a password is not necessary. This has not been done in order to maintain privacy for members. Member information could be omitted.

- **Fundraising**

June 30, 2018 10:00 Volunteers needed at Freedom Festival Parade – need two more people. You need to order t-shirts, which in the past



have run large. You will be informed when to pick them up.

Directions will be given for arrival time and expectations.

July 4, 2018 3:30 – 7:00 Volunteers at Freedom Festival Celebration on the bridge. There are multi-jobs for volunteers. There are now 7 volunteers but 10 are needed.

## **6. Past Presidents – Jean & Dean**

### **- Justice for Neighbors**

This is a nation-wide project by the Methodist Church. Margaret Nelson is our contact. She has stated it will be in November this year at the Lovely Lane Church in Cedar Rapids. It is for people who have questions on immigration limited to 15 people a night. There will be attorneys, interpreters, and students in social justice classes from various colleges available to answer questions and fill out forms. It will be our job to provide light lunch and hospitality for immigrants and volunteers and to serve, do the dishes, and cleanup.

### **- Humanitarian Fund**

It is in the budget. There is a carry over from prior years (Kids Against Hunger was an example) We can be on a lookout for a project – service related or related to a club or humanitarian need.

## **7. Committee Reports**

### **a. Membership – Marian**

We added three new members to the 88 from start of the year.

We dropped 23 members from last year.

There are 5 who have not paid dues.

That leaves us with 63 paid – existing members.

### **- New member recruiting and mentoring**

We need to do recruiting along with mentoring and follow-ups needed. We need to invite guests to general meetings.

### **b. Activities – Shirley**

Call Shirley if interested in helping with cookies for General Meeting – place in newsletter

### **- May LEO Nancy Miller**

### **c. Journeys – Connie**

#### **Incoming Albuquerque, NM June 13-19, 2018 (Audrey)**

We do not have a confirmed number of incoming yet, but the last number was 15. A few more would be better. On Saturday, June 16, there will be a general meeting that includes the journey from Albuquerque, NM. It will be at JP Motor Cycle Museum in Anamosa.

LJ's will cater and the band, Flip Side, will play. This will be a great opportunity to recruit. There was a discussion of people who make reservations should pay ahead so as to not just show up and have the club responsible to pay their dinner reservation amount.

#### **Incoming Brazil – Cancelled (Connie)**

We need to look ahead because we are to go to Brazil next year. Things to consider are the distance between the two journey locations and the climate in that it can be hot and humid making it difficult for some members. Also, in planning, considering a break time between journeys in Brazil also could be helpful.

Since Brazil is now not coming to Cedar Rapids, going to Chicago could become a domestic visit staying in homes. We would keep the already reserved agenda. There are 12 already signed up. This is to be pursued as an outgoing to Chicago.

#### **Incoming New Zealand – Sept. 29- Oct. 6, 2018 (Jerry/MaryAnn)**

Waiting for information from New Zealand.

#### **Open World**

The committee will be Myron, Connie, Jerry, and Larry  
Steve and Vic were willing to mentor but not be responsible for the Open World.

Jim will respond in two-three days. It was moved by Connie and seconded by Audrey that we accept the invitation to Open World based upon the November 2 topics, Election or Media Reform or November 9 Journalism topic.

#### **2019 Journeys**

Brazil - about \$2000 airfare plus cost between cities

This topic was previously discussed

Japan – will be coming here then going to Madison, September 2019

#### **d. Communications – Mary**

##### **- Website updates**

June 2 picnic in Ames

Certificate pictured in news letter

May LEO

#### **8. Other Business**

Audit: Rose will be auditor and Jerry and Stephanie on the committee.

It would be checking the receipts against the bank statements.

(A suggestion for the future was to sign receipts when turning them in.)

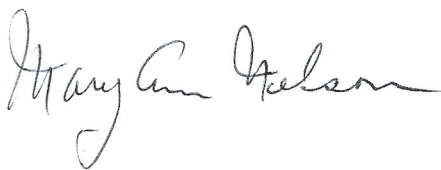


New Business: Annual meeting is set form the Long Branch but the room may be too large. Jim and John can work together to decide.

9. **Summary,**  
    **Next Meeting**  
    **- June 7, 2018 6:30pm, location TBD**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:35**

**Respectfully submitted,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary Ann Nelson".A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Larry Nelson".

**Larry and Mary Ann Nelson, secretaries**