

Minutes for Friendship Force CR/IC Board Meeting

Monday, September 28, 2020 at 10AM via Zoom

Call to order by Mary Ann Nelson at 10:05 AM. Present on Zoom: Mary Ann and Larry Nelson, John and Judy Miner, Mary Stull, Joanne Smith, John and Judy Miners, Jerry Burke, Shirley, Ester, Carol, Darlene, Connie, and Trudy Johansen.

President's Report:

A. Mission Statement:

Mary Ann opened the meeting by reading the mission statement, which she also had included in a previous email to the Board. It reads as follows:

Our **mission** is to promote **global** understanding across the barriers that separate people. Each individual can make a contribution to **global** goodwill. The **Friendship Force** worldwide network of clubs and individuals seeks to overcome differences among people and nations.

Mary Ann mentioned our mission is NOT just about journeys but about continued goodwill work. John indicated he would put the mission statement in the newsletter.

B. Staying in contact during Covid with members/diversity within our club:
The FF Board members will divide all members amongst the Board, and each Board member will personally call them with a set groups of questions/suggestions for our club during this unprecedented time. If you have any names for new members, send them to Judy. Also, any ideas for new members through YFU, World Friendship Day, Mt. Mercy, Coe, Cornell, or the local high school counselors who mentor foreign exchange students. Diversity of members was discussed.

C. Status of Strategic Planning:

This is hard to do in the current situation, but Jim Steggall will be asked to lead a committee of about 5 to include one Board member, Judy.

Secretary's Report:

The report was sent by Mary Ann via email. Judy made a motion to accept the minutes, and Jerry seconded it. Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report:

Joanne reported there was \$9,148.69 in the regular account and \$5,259.87 in the journey account. There was discussion on getting new checks printed and the cost, but it was decided to use the current checks and cross out the address if necessary. Do we need a home address? The PO box costs \$70/year. Further discussion on this topic will be held in the future. Mary moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted, Connie seconded it. Report approved. There is a one year reduced dues for FFI of \$20. Ester made a motion that each member pay \$20 and Joanne seconded. Motion passed.

President Elect Report:

Jerry needs to work on forming a committee for nominations. Per the by-laws that slate of officers much be in the newsletter 2 weeks before the Annual meeting. Judy discussed the by-laws update, but they are still not nailed down. Jerry, Judy, and Mary Ann will work on this before the annual meeting.

Committee Reports:

Membership—Carol reported 67 members, the same as last year.

Activities—Darlene and Shirley mentioned that Trivia Night was a great success with 11-12 people. It went well, and there's a possibility of doing one on October 23. Marian reported there will be a Mix and Mingle on October 2.

Journeys—Connie reported there has been email contact with journey people in Australia and New Zealand. Jerry has been in contact with North Carolina. New Mexico is iffy for fall 2022. When will we be able to host again? Paper work for 2022 is due September 30 to FFI. Is there a global demand now? Journey requests for 2022 will come in 10-15 days. There will probably be nothing in 2021. It was suggested that for future journeys

that travelers arrive a few days or even month before the scheduled trip. The Board encouraged travelers to check with airlines in regard to when to use their tickets.

Communications—Mary Ann thanked Mary for the amazing Gazette article. John has the next newsletter ready to go with the addition of information from this meeting.

Humanitarian—Connie mentioned the number of people living in tents after el derecho. They did receive some help from a Food bank, Hoover elementary, and HACAP. Judy mentioned the possibility of volunteering to help clean up Oak Hill Cemetery.

Old Business:

The annual meeting was canceled in August due to el derecho, and all meeting will be virtual using Zoom in the near future. The Zoom meeting is scheduled for December 6 at 4 and will last no more than 1 1/2 hours maximum. Jerry mentioned that it needs to be organized and maybe even have a practice run through. The idea of a speaker was discussed. Any voting would be virtual. The expanded Zoom annual meeting will also include small break out groups as well as the large group meeting.

New Business:

Mary Ann mentioned using FFI to get information on Virtual Journeys or to look online. There will be a New Membership Portal coming from FFI, but Mary Ann and Dale need to find our some more information on it.

Judy made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Jerry seconded, and Mary Ann adjourned the meeting at 11:30.

The next Board meeting will be on October 26 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted—10-5-2020

Judy Johanson

Secretary