

**Present :** Shirley Rosencrans, Nancy York, Tom Hess, Nadine Stark, Stephanie Schulte, Mary Stull, Carol Burke, Patty Potter, Connie Williams, **Absent:** Sharon Bowers, Joanie Lacayo, Judy Frascht-Miner

**Secretary's Report:** There were no corrections to the report. A motion was made by Mary to accept the minutes. Patty seconded the motion and the minutes passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** There were no corrections to the Treasurer's report. A motion to accept the report was made by Patty, and seconded by Carol. The motion carried.

### **Committee Updates:**

**Membership:** Carol reported we have 67 paid memberships. One new member, Denise Roberts, has paid membership. The welcome information has been sent to her. There has been no response from Michael Eckert or Tina Gage. Kyle Scheer is not joining at this time but may join internationally.

There were 7 prior members who have been contacted many times but have decided not to continue membership.

**Journeys 2025:** Judy briefly updated the board through email with the following:

- Since we don't have an Open World, Connie is back as our Ambassador Coordinator for Milwaukee.
- Stephanie can report on Adelaide. Stephanie reported that we have a total of 10 people coming.
- *New Hampshire* - all payments have been made, making connections with hosts, and will have a zoom with travelers in April.
- Patty can report on Thailand, (see below)

*Special Journey to be posted to the Midwest Region:* Connie reported The Greater Harrisburg, PA club has a cancellation from their inbound Canadian journey. The dates are June 11th to the 18th. Connie will send this info to club leaders and clubs.

*Greater Manchester, UK:* Minnesota FF club is hosting Greater Manchester in October and they are looking for a second week. Connie will forward the information to Judy as a possibility of an incoming journey.

*Outbound to Thailand:* Patty reported a member has dropped from the Thailand journey for health reasons. There are several people on the waitlist but they are not from our club. This position will be offered to our members first.

### **Open World/Midwest Regional Update:**

*Open World Update:* Connie reported we were originally offered an Open World

from Lithuania for Economic Development. They had been assigned to Atlanta for historical restoration but for funding considerations the agenda changed to Economic Development of the Defense Industry. This is not something we could possibly do and declined.

*Regional Meeting Update:* Connie reported FF wants to do journeys now more than ever. We will try with Canada but they may distance themselves from us.

Also, there is a money issue. FFI was going to assess a \$15.00 amount to each ambassador traveling to meet budget constraints. They have since made it an optional thing. There was a thought this assessment amount could be paid out of the individual club funds. There has been no formal email at this time. This subject has been tabled until next month.

### **Communications:**

Mary reported everything is up to date. Mary will post the updated membership list as soon as she receives it.

### **Old Business:**

The budget numbers for Activities and Contributions were thoroughly discussed. The suggested amounts are \$750 for Activities and \$500 for Contributions. A motion by Stephanie was made to accept these amounts in Activities and Contributions and approve the 2025 Budget. Patty seconded the motion and the motion carried.

### **New Business:**

*Trivia Night:* Trivia is set for April 4th at 7pm. Nancy will send out the zoom link.

*Soup Supper/Game Night:* The date is set for April 6th at The Anamosa Public Library for a soup supper and game night from 4 to 6pm. The sign-up genius has been sent. The board should arrive at 3:30 for set up. Lemonade/water/ice provided. Bring any games or cards you want to play.

*LEO:* The next LEO is set for May 4th. at 11:00 am. This will be at the Lubben winery in Anamosa, IA. Diane Jefferies is the host. Jerry will send out a sign-up genius at the end of April.

*All Iowa Picnic:* The All Iowa Picnic is scheduled June 28th in Des Moines.

Kosovo Event held at Coe Update: Connie gave a brief highlight of the Kosovo event held at Coe College. It was a bad weather day and the consulate from Des Moines was not able to make it. They had a speaker, General Timothy Orr, who had several deployments to Kosovo. Our speaker from International Friendship Day, Alissa Boguslaw, helped organize the event. We will forward our newsletter to Alissa.

*4th of July Volunteer:* Patty will take care of organizing the volunteer positions for the Freedom Festival this year. She will bring the sign-up positions to Soup/Game night in Anamosa.

*Board Meeting:* Next board meeting is April 28th at 1:00 pm.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Stephanie and seconded by Carol. The meeting closed at 1:57pm.

/cns