

Friendship Force of Wisconsin Madison Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes, June 15, 2016
Bridge Point Waunona Community Center

The following Board members were present: ,Sandi Wysock, Janet Lonergan, Donna Hussin, Judy Taylor, Stephanie Sorensen, Gail Holmes, Lois Schulz, Maggie Dohm, Sandy Drew

Excused Absent: Helen Ann Rugowski, Mary Lindquist, Lise Skofronick, Nancy Brown

Agenda: No changes

Secretary's Report: April 5, April 15th minutes approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Judith Taylor –Motion made and seconded by Gail Holmes and Lois Schulz to record transfers from club to exchange checking account on treasurers' report. Then when the exchange pays the funds back to the club the entry gets reversed. Passed. Balance of the reports from 4/30 and 5/31 approved as presented.

Presidents Report: Sandi Wysock.

We received a short recap of the regional meeting, workshops, strategic planning ideas, suggestions for exchanges-having 2 free days during the weeks stay, keep fees as low as possible. A reminder that 2017 is the 40th anniversary for FF Intl. The July newsletter will contain a complete report.

We have to have our requested for international exchanges 2018 by late September. We will move up the general meeting to an evening in September to get input from our membership as to where we would like to go. If members can't attend they will be asked to respond by email.

Old Business: Revision of the club bio: Gail Homes presented a draft for an updated bio. With just a few minor adjustment it was well received. The final version was but on our website and also forwarded to International.

Member at large description: After some discussion, Sandi will rewrite the draft and present the updated copy at the next board meeting.

Strategic planning meeting will be June 22nd, noon, at Lise Skofronick' club house

New Business:

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Exchange Directors Report – Gail Holmes

The 12 ambassadors traveling on the Cleveland County, England exchange from May 11-18, 2016 had a good time report co-EDs Nancy Brown and Stephanie Sorensen. They are a very old club in terms of member's ages. There was lots of free time so each host and ambassador could create an individualized exchange at their own pace, which was well received. The whole group had 3-4 meals together. Since Stephanie broke her left elbow in York, the eleven traveled on. Nine enjoyed the extended tour in Scotland. Judy Taylor is the treasurer.

ED Helen Ann Rugowski and Assistant ED Jerry Fuller report that the 22 Ambassadors from NashikRiverside India will be hosted in 11 member homes from July 8-15, 2016. Three home hosts are first timers and several others have been away from hosting for some time; please support their participation during this exchange. Half the group is dinner hosted Monday, July 11, the other half on Tuesday, July 12; these arrangements completed by Jane Kessenich. Again, we have 2 new dinner hosts who are also new members. The welcome dinner is at the Elks Lodge on Friday, July 8, and the farewell party is with our annual picnic on Thursday, July 14, at Burrows Park. As always, all activities on the

itinerary are open to members, families and friends and the revised signup is online and in the July newsletter. The first workshop on May 25 was well attended and all hosts have a draft of the week's schedule. The second workshop/LEO at Amber Indian Restaurant, also well attended, featured Professor Joe Elder, formerly with the UW Center of South Asia, to speak on the culture and customs of India. All the hosts have attended one or both workshops for this exchange. Janet Lonergan is the treasurer.

At Friendship Force International, there have been reassignments of support managers following the resignation of Mary Mwambay. Laura Romero is now the contact for the inbound exchange from Winnipeg, Canada and Santa Barbara, CA from September 13-20, 2016. Co-EDs Patrick Fleming and George Wysock report 13 ambassadors are coming from Winnipeg and 12-13 from Santa Barbara. One more home host for a woman is still needed. The Planning Committee has met twice and arranged an interesting schedule of activities to offer ambassadors and hosts. Arrangements are being finalized. Lois Schulz is the treasurer.

I've been working on trying to get our 2017 clubs to finalize their schedules. The outbound international exchange to Guadeloupe originally was listed on its A Match for January. They requested we come April 8-15, which is our Holy Week. Co-EDs Lise Skofronick and Maureen Kind researched when Guadeloupe had school breaks since many of their hosts are teachers. Lise and Maureen identified February 23 to March 2, 2017, give or take a day based on airline flights, as an option. The Guadeloupe club will meet in mid-June to discuss this new timeframe. We have not yet been informed who will replace Mary Mwambay as our FFI contract

I'm holding San Diego, CA in abeyance for their inbound exchange in July 2017 until we finalize the outbound exchange to Metro Vancouver and Medicine Hat in Canada. Those clubs originally were scheduled to host us in September, but the Medicine Hat ED requested we come in July or August 2017. I've spoken with her and she was working on several scenerios but still needed to work out arrangements with Vancouver. I'm awaiting her email with suggested dates that hopefully will accommodate all three clubs. Our FFI contact is Kaitlyn Ranney

In April, I emailed our contact for the Noumea, New Caledonia inbound international exchange. They are scheduled for May 2017, spending the first week in Chicago and then coming to Wisconsin. I have inquired of the Chicago ED and our new FFI contact Maryam Jordan on June 8 if either have heard from New Caledonia but haven't received a response yet from them.

Outreach report – Lise Skofronick- No report

Activities: Stephanie Sorensen & Nancy Brown

Picnic on July 14th—22 members have signed up so far; which does not include our ambassadors.
Concert – Olbrich Garden June 28th. Working on August dinner. Book Club fall, date to be determined, book on China

Membership –Mary Lindquist –

We had 2 membership meetings, June 6th and June 9th. We had two members attend the Monday meeting and 4 prospective members attend the Thursday meeting. They all enjoyed the open discussion

about how FF works. We have emails for all the prospective people. They will receive notices about our club like the newsletter and the other emails. It was suggested to have mentors be at these meeting in the future.

Historian – No report

Newsletter – Donna Hussin-articles to Donna by Midnight, Wednesday following the board meeting.
Please remember to put title on the subject line

Ad Hoc committee and Finance Committee –no reports

Next meeting Wednesday, July 20th, 1:15 P.M

Respectfully submitted, Lois Schulz

