

Friendship Force of Wisconsin - Madison, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2019
Bridge LakePoint Community Center, 1917 Lake Point Drive, Madison

The meeting was called to order at 12:35.

Present: Peg Hutnik, Martha McGregor, Gail Holmes, Helen Ann Rugowski, Stephanie Sorensen, Agnes Rona, Janet Lonergan, Sandi Wysock, Tom Miller, Donna Miller.

Excused absence: Audrey Liimantainen, Magdi Sebestyen, Kathy Speck-Kemeny, Mary Juckem

Minutes. Martha mentioned that there was a minor typo to correct. Helen Ann moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected, Gail seconded, motion carried.

President's Report. Peg reported that she attended the Activities Committee meeting. They propose to send a monthly bulletin to the members via MailChimp listing the activities on the months when no newsletter is published. Peg has volunteered to do the August bulletin. Sandi volunteered to create a template on MailChimp. Stephanie would like to have a notice of activities further in advance so that members can better plan for them. Allen Rieland is working on adding the activities to the web-site calendar. Peg would like to have a web-site training session at the Fall membership meeting.

Journey Coordinator. Stephanie mentioned that the Aichi-Dallas journey is in progress as is the Medicine Hat. Hank Weiss is working on a biking journey for 2020. The 2020 Super-regional will be held in Minneapolis from Sept 20-22. She has not had a reply from New Caledonia or New Zealand regarding dates for the 2020 journey. Stephanie moved that Dan Eggerding and Maureen Kind be approved as Ambassador Coordinators for the New Caledonia/New Zealand journey, seconded by Gail, motion carried. Tom Miller reported that there has been some difficulty contacting the Australian host coordinators regarding scheduling. Gail reported that there has been low participation from club members for the Medicine Hat journey.

Newsletter Editor. Agnes announced that the deadline for the July Newsletter is June 19 at noon. She is working with Allen and Sandi to clear up the problems that occurred last time with posting the newsletter to the website.

Activities Committee. Gail reported that they met on Monday in order to plan for a newsletter article. The Kenosha trip was cancelled because only 9 people had registered. Donna Hussin will not plan a Fall trip and she will request a \$30 reimbursement for the actor that was to perform. The June date for Second Harvest service project has been changed to the 20th; in July it will be on the 25th. Mary Mastaglio has planned another bike ride to McFarland. The annual picnic to be held on July 8 still needs more participation. Blue Stone Accordion will perform. Magdi has planned a hike for July 14. The book club meets on August 27 to discuss **In a Sunburned Country** by Bill Bryson. The highway clean-up will be on September 17. Gail is working on circle dinners with Mary Witte and Sandy Drew.

Membership Committee. Helen Ann reported that there are 121 members. She also praised Mary Linqvist for the excellent job she is doing maintaining the membership database. She proposed presenting new members in the newsletter. Helen Ann asked that we invite new members to our activities.

Outreach Committee. There is no report. Tom reported that he will resign starting in September in order to pursue other activities.

Historian. Janet Lonergan reported that after seven years as historian she will retire in September. The enormous task of preparing the records for submission to the Wisconsin State Historical Society is completed and she feels that this is a good time to retire. Janet recommended that the records be submitted to the historical society at regular intervals.

Ad hoc Committees.

Accumulated Funds. Martha reported that the committee has approved the request by Gail and the Activities Committee for \$100 to pay the Blue Accordion Group to entertain at the annual picnic. Martha moved that the board approve this expense, seconded by Janet, motion passed.

Technology. Sandi has been researching the "Meet Up" social program. It will cost \$200/year for our club to participate. Agnes said there are a lot of Meet Ups in Madison for various activities and is popular among young people. Sandi will find out how the program is working for the other Friendship Force clubs that are using it. Then the board can evaluate whether it might work for us.

Old Business.

FFI reports that the international Conference in Boulder is nearly at capacity.

Peg invited the Orlando Club to come in 2020, but their schedule is full.

Several members are planning to offer a themed bicycle journey.

Everything is in place for the Medicine Hat journey. Aichi-Dallas is still a work in progress.

New Business

The bi-annual activity with the FF-Milwaukee club on the table.

Dave Kalen contacted Sandi about the Leadership Training that they will do in October 2020. He would like to know if we would be interested in hosting a 3 to 4-day home stay for 10-11 people to follow the training week.

The Open World list will come out in August. If we want to participate, we will need to decide in September.

Future Dates. There will not be a meeting in July. The next meeting will be August 14 which will include a strategic planning goals review. We should plan for a longer meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:01.

Respectfully submitted by Martha McGregor.