

Friendship Force of Wisconsin - Madison, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2019
Bridge LakePoint Community Center, 1917 Lake Point Drive, Madison

The meeting was called to order at 12:35.

Present: Kathy Speck-Kemeny, Martha McGregor, Gail Holmes, Agnes Rona, Janet Lonergan, Sandi Wysock, Mary Juckem, Magdi Sebestyen.

Excused absence: Audrey Liimantainen, Helen Ann Rugowski, Stephanie Sorensen, Tom Miller, Donna Miller.

Vice President Kathy Speck-Kemeny called the meeting to order at 12:36.

Minutes: Corrections noted by Sandi Wysock that it is Hank Weiss, not Mike Weiss and Gail Holmes said that the annual picnic is on July 8, not 9. Agnes Rona moved that the minutes be accepted with those corrections, Gail seconded, and motion carried.

Appointment of President. Since our president Peg Hutnik resigned, we need to have new leadership. As vice-president Kathy felt that she is not ready to accept the president's position at this time, but she will be able to take over in one year. Sandi Wysock has offered to accept the position. Gail moved to recommend that we appoint Sandi Wysock to serve as President until Sept 2020, Mary Juckem seconded, and the motion carried.

Sandi led the meeting from this point. There will be an announcement of the change in the Newsletter in place of the President's column. Sandy will also recruit someone to take over the outreach committee, since Tom and Donna Miller have resigned.

Treasurer's report. Gail reported that the caterer's bill for the picnic was \$885. Gail moved that we accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Kathy, motion carried.

Journey Chair Report. There were no questions. Gail mentioned that Doug Johnson did a nice job on the booklet for Medicine Hat Journey. Stephanie asked for someone to work with Hank Weiss on the global bicycle journey.

Membership. Helen Ann sent her report by email. Patty Stone who played the accordion for the picnic has renewed her membership. There will be a memorial for Gary Lindquist at the Capitol Brewery on August 31 from 2-5:00. Gary was an active long-time member of our club.

Activities. Gail reported that several members volunteered for the first time at Second Harvest last month. There have been three bike trips with an increase in participation each time. Magdi asked for suggestions to improve the participation in hikes. The next hike will be on a weekday September 12 at 5:30 pm.

Work has begun on the circle suppers. Sandy Drew wrote that a leader is needed and then participants sign up. Kathy suggested that we should have a newsletter article to explain process and get volunteers. Each person would only need to host once each year. Agnes will draft a paragraph and Kathy will edit.

Bobbie Vrooman is working on the LEO schedule.

There was \$27.42 left over from the picnic which was returned to the treasury.

Outreach. No report.

Historian. No report.

Accumulated funds. No report.

Manual Updates. FFI will increase journey fees according to the following chart:

Journey Type	2019 FFI Fees (USD)	2020 FFI Fees (USD)
International Club-to-Club Journeys (5-7 nights)	\$165 per week for Journeys from the USA	\$170 per week for Journeys from the USA
	\$140 per week for Journeys from all other countries	\$150 per week for Journeys from all other countries
Domestic Club-to-Club Journeys (5-7 nights)	\$10 per night	\$15 per night
EU and Schengen Journeys	\$10 per night	\$15 per night
Stopover Journeys (1-4 nights)	\$20 per night	\$25 per night
Global Journeys	Fees vary	Fees vary

Technology. Tom Miller has volunteered to take over Sandi's technology committee responsibilities. He is getting familiar with new website.

New Business.

Inbound Journey Requests for 2020. The inbound requests are due at FFI by August 15. We will ask for two international inbound journeys and manage the domestic inbound on our own. We will not offer a themed journey for 2021. The board also approved a 1-4-day homestay for travelers. We will request the Oita club as a reciprocal.

The forms for outbound requests will be sent out September 1. Niagara Canada will be one of our requests. A suggestion was made to repeat the survey so that we have input from the new members as well as long-time members. This can be distributed by MailChimp. Members will need to put their names on their survey.

Strategic Planning. The annual strategic planning meeting will be on September 11, and probably off-site. This will include ideas from the July International FFI conference and a review of past goals. Future potential club leaders will be invited to participate. Sandi will invite Dale Moore to join us.

The Super Regional conference will be held September 18-20 in Minneapolis. They are requesting topics. This will be taken up by the board at the strategic planning meeting next month.

Dave Kalan of Milwaukee is planning a Leadership Conference in October 2020 and he has asked us to host the participants for a few days either at the beginning or end of the conference.

Open World 2020. The replies are due by September 19. The board decided that we would do "Epidemiology and Infectious Disease" for the Ukraine in July 8 as first choice. Second will be "STEM" for Russia on March 4. Third will be "Domestic Abuse" for Armenia on May 6.

Newsletter items are due on August 21 to Agnes Rona, editor.

Members who went to the International Conference should submit their receipts Mary Juckem for reimbursement.

The next meeting will be the Strategic Planning session on September 11 at 12:30. Sandi will reserve a library meeting room. The board members should plan to work most of the afternoon.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:38.

Respectfully submitted by Martha McGregor.