

Friendship Force of Wisconsin - Madison, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2020
Bridge LakePoint Community Center, 1917 Lakepoint Dr., Madison WI

Sandi Wysock called the meeting to order at 12:34.

Present: Sandi Wysock, Martha McGregor, Mary Juckem, Gail Holmes, Agnes Rona, Dorothy Baldwin, Stephanie Sorensen.

Excused absence: Peter Kaufman, Helen Ann Rugowski, Kathy Speck-Kemeny, Magdi Sebestyen, Open Historian.

Minutes. Gail Holmes moved that the minutes be accepted as submitted, seconded by Dorothy Baldwin, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report. Stephanie Sorensen moved that the treasurer's report be accepted as submitted, seconded by Agnes Rona, motion carried.

Presidents Report. Sandi clarified the information from FFI regarding the new charter. The changes were made in order to comply with regulations by the EU regarding personal data protections. They engaged an attorney to make sure that the new charter is compliant with the EU regulations. There are questions regarding the personal information of our members and the ambassadors that visit us. How long is their information retained? Must all personal information be redacted before records can be submitted to the Wisconsin Historical Society? Do we retain any information beyond the end of a journey? Do we share any information beyond our club?

Sandi emphasized that the by-laws require that three people serves on each committee. The membership list under the 'members only' tab on the website is kept current. Mary Lindquist can sort a list of volunteers from this list for your use.

Journey Coordinator. Stephanie Sorensen is requesting that we add two more journey treasurers. She moved that the board approve the addition of Magdi Sebestyen and Tamas Gaal as journey treasurers, seconded by Mary Juckem, motion carried. Mary will work with Magdi and Tamas to add them to the checking account. The journey treasurer duties need to be more specific and proactive; to be involved in planning the budget and program for the journey and to make sure that financials to and from FFI are paid in a timely manner. In general, this means that the treasurer will be a more active member of the journey committee. Agnes moved to adopt the policy as presented, Gail seconded, and the motion carried.

Stephanie asked that we develop a policy to reimburse drivers when we transport the ambassadors to another club either before or after our journey. The mileage will be calculated based on the IRS rate for charity. We will charge the ambassadors that amount divided by half. Each driver will receive the amount for one ambassador regardless of the number of individuals in their car. Stephanie moved to adopt this policy as stated, Gail seconded, and the motion carried.

Newsletter. Agnes said that the deadline will be February 21 for the March newsletter. The slate of nominees for officers will be published in that issue. Annual meeting minutes will also need to be published then so that all members will have the opportunity to read these items before the annual meeting in April.

Historian. No report.

Membership. There are 124 members.

Activities Committee. Gail reported that 12 people attended the Dining on the 6th January activity at the BonFyre Grill. Any members interested in volunteering for the Garden Expo should contact Reta Haring for information. Reta Haring will also host the book club on February 17 at 2 pm.

Outreach Committee. Members may contact Dorothy to volunteer at our table at the International Festival on February 29. She suggested that we send informational speakers to community chambers and other service organizations. She is planning a workshop for taking vacation photos with our cell phones and other ways to use your phone during travel.

AdHoc Committees.

By-laws Committee. Dorothy moved that we approve a rewrite of the bylaws to comply with the information received from FFI, Stephanie seconded, and the motion carried. The re-write needs to be done quickly because any changes will need to be presented to the membership prior to the annual meeting with discussion and approval at that meeting.

Accumulated Funds. No report.

Nominating Committee. Gail moved that the board approve the addition of Helen Ann Rugowski and Lise Skofronick to the nominating committee, Mary seconded, and the motion carried. The officer slate so far has Kathy Speck-Kemeny for president, and Mary Juckem for treasurer. The secretary and vice president offices are still open, but they have identified individuals who might be interested in serving.

Old Business.

Budget. Sandi asked if there were any questions regarding the budget. The Meet-up proposal is still in research. The budget will be approved at the February meeting.

Sandi reminded the committee chairs to work with their members to set goals that will be achievable by the end of the year. The goals should have anticipated results that can be measured.

The annual meeting is set for April 4, 2020.

The scheduled board meeting for March 11th is in the middle of the Open World week. The board agreed to meet on March 4th.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10.