

**Friendship Force of Wisconsin - Madison, Inc.**  
Board Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2020  
Bridge LakePoint Community Center, 1917 Lakepoint Dr., Madison WI

Sandi Wysock called the meeting to order at 12:49.

**Present:** Sandi Wysock, Martha McGregor, Mary Juckem, Gail Holmes, Agnes Rona, Dorothy Baldwin, Stephanie Sorensen, Peter Kaufman, Kathy Speck-Kemeny.

**Excused absence:** Helen Ann Rugowski, Magdi Sebestyen, Open Historian.

**Minutes.** Dorothy Baldwin moved to accept the minutes as presented, Stephanie Sorensen seconded, motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report.** Kathy Speck moved to accept the report as presented, Gail Holmes seconded, motion passed.

**President's Report.** Sandi moved that we appoint George Wysock, Mary Lindquist, and Mike Lambert to the audit committee. Gail objected to the appointment of Mike Lambert because he has a personal relationship with the treasurer which could present a conflict of interest. Kathy moved that George Wysock, Mary Lindquist, and Gail Holmes be appointed to the audit committee, seconded by Peter Kaufman, motion carried. The audit committee will meet on March 2.

Tom Miller has website access and will be posting the newsletter and the list of activities on the non-newsletter months. Peter Kaufman also has access and will be monitoring the calendar and posting events to the calendar.

Donna Hussin has agreed to be the historian in an unofficial capacity until the revised by-laws are approved by the membership at the annual meeting.

Dale Moore has clarified the European Union privacy requirements that require a change in the FFI charter. Currently it only applies to clubs located in the EU. The requirement is that ambassadors will provide personal information to the host club to be used for the journey only. Approval must be granted by the each ambassador in order to use their personal information for any other purpose.

**Journey Coordinator.** Stephanie reported that the planning for the Global Bike journey is going well. The New Zealand journey is going well, however the New Caledonia journey is providing some issues with increasing costs for some of the events.

**Newsletter.** The deadline for the newsletter is February 21. Agnes will publish a paragraph alerting the members to the by-laws revision which must be presented to the membership one month in advance of the annual meeting. Biographies including photos for next year's slate of officers will be published. Officers will be elected at the annual meeting.

**Outreach.** Dorothy is working on a brochure to be given out to prospective members. She has two volunteers for each shift for our table at the International Fest held on February 29. Other members are welcome to drop by and help.

**Membership.** Currently we have 88 paid members. There are 10-12 members who have not renewed, and Helen Ann will continue to call them with reminders. It is important that we think of ways to grow our membership, invite guests to our events, and continue to engage new members.

**Activities.** Gail reported that interest in Dining on the 6<sup>th</sup> continues to grow. There were 12 that attended in January and 18 in February. On March 6<sup>th</sup> Donna Hussin will host dinner at the Dorf House for roasted turtle or fish fry. Gail is continuing to get volunteers to host these events. The Book Club will meet at the home of Reta Harring on February 17 at 2:00 to discuss Radium Girls by Kate Moore. The annual meeting to be held

on April 4 at the Middleton Glen Retirement center will feature a potluck meal with entertainment by a combo from the Russian orchestra and the business meeting.

#### **Ad Hoc Committees.**

**By-Laws Update.** The by-laws were reviewed by Tom Miller's son-in-law who is an expert in parliamentary law and the New Robert's Rules of Order. There was a lengthy discussion about some of the revisions in the by-laws. Stephanie will incorporate the suggestions from the board and submit them via email to the board members for their approval. The board approved version will be submitted to the membership via MailChimp by March 4.

**Accumulated Funds.** No report.

**Nominating Committee.** Gail presented the slate of officers: President-Kathy Speck-Kemeny, Vice President-Doug Johnson, Secretary-Diana Rodum, Treasurer-Mary Juckem. Gail moved to accept the slate as presented, Dorothy seconded, motion carried.

**Audit Committee.** The committee was approved under the president's report.

#### **Old Business.**

**Budget.** Mary presented a new budget based on income from 110 members. Stephanie suggested that the activities budget be increased to include costs for the annual picnic, venue rentals, and other events. Further discussion included increases in Membership to provide activities for new members. Helen Ann will work with Dorothy on Outreach to plan events for prospective new members. A line was added to the budget for the program committee. Mary will prepare and submit a revised budget; approval was tabled until the March meeting.

**Committee Goals.** This was tabled until the March meeting.

**New Charter.** This was addressed under the president's report.

#### **New Business.**

**Posting events on the web site calendar.** Peter will coordinate with Gail for information regarding the events. These can be revised as more information becomes available. Any events that are published in the newsletter should be on the calendar. Stephanie will be the contact for journey events. Sandi will submit the Open World events that are open to the members.

**Board Meeting attendance.** The board manual policy regarding attendance at the board meeting is that any board member with three unexcused absences will be removed from the board. We do not have a policy relating to the maximum number of excused absences for board members. The board agreed that board members with multiple excused absences would be considered on an individual basis.

**Non-FF day trips.** We will not advertise these events but may present them to the membership for information only.

**Events with FF-Milwaukee.** We plan to meet with the Milwaukee club at Old World Wisconsin in June 2020. A scavenger hunt or some other ice-breaker activity will be planned. Dates that are available for us are the weekend of June 13<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>. The Western Michigan club asked for dates in April or May, however our club can not meet them during those months. An event to meet with Northern Illinois is also a possibility.

Kathy moved to adjourn the meeting, Gail seconded, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40.

The next meeting is March 4, 2020 at 12:30 at the Bridge Lake point Community Center. The date was changed because of Open World.

Respectfully submitted by Martha McGregor.

