

**Friendship Force of Wisconsin - Madison, Inc.**  
Board Meeting Minutes – July 8, 2020  
Via Zoom

Kathy Speck-Kemeny called the meeting to order at 12:35.

**Present:** Kathy Speck-Kemeny, Martha McGregor, Mary Juckem, Dorothy Baldwin, Peter Kaufman, Helen Ann Rugowski, Magdi Sebestyen, Agnes Rona, Doug Johnson, Vice President-elect, Gail Holmes, Stephanie Sorensen, Diana Rodum, Secretary-elect.

**Absent:** Sandi Wysock

**Minutes.** Martha McGregor mentioned that there is a minor wording change under Old Business, By-laws. Mary Juckem moved to approve the revised minutes, Stephanie Sorensen seconded, and the motion passed.

**Treasurers Report.** Mary mentioned that there was a deposit from the Open World program and the New Caledonia journey. The balance in the operating budget is \$10259.61. Gail Holmes moved to submit the treasurer's report for audit, Magdi Sebestyen seconded and the motion passed.

**President's Report.** Sandi submitted the report to the board via email.

**Journey Manager Report.** Stephanie reported that the New Caledonia ambassadors are all amenable to travelling there in 2022. The global bicycle journey has been postponed until 2021. Oita incoming journey will be later in 2021. Kathy contacted Kukimi, coordinator, and they are still interested in coming here, maybe November. This journey will need to be coordinated with their journey to the Olympia club. We will go to Niagara, Canada in October. We have a journey planned to go to Dallas, Texas in May 2021, but that may need to change depending on the status of the Covid pandemic. Stephanie will communicate with all coordinators in the Fall as the pandemic unfolds. FFI is requesting that no funds be transferred at this time.

**Outreach Report.** Dorothy Baldwin reported that the International Festival will not be an in-person event, but a virtual event probably with dance performances, and music. That means that we will not be participating in 2021.

**Membership.** Helen Ann Rugowski reported that there are 100 members. In May of 2019 there were 121 members. There are several inactive members. Possibly we can plan to reach out to those members to check in with them, mention the activities that are still on-going and offer to help with Zoom meetings. Kathy asked for volunteers to help with calls. Kathy, Agnes, Gail, Stephanie, Diana, Peter, and Martha volunteered to phone members. Agnes will draft a script. Helen Ann and Peter will coordinate with Gail and Magdi, who know the active members, to generate a list of members to call.

**Activities Committee.** Gail reported that there were 14 at the Zoom cocktail hour on the 6<sup>th</sup>. A bike ride will be on July 21 that will be led by Jan Hornback. The up-coming walk/hike at Pope Farms Conservancy will be on July 28 at noon and hosted by Magdi. The volunteers that participate in the Second Harvest service project work with social distancing in mind. There are two Adopt-a-Highway activities, August 2 at 7 am, and October 21. The book club will meet on August 17 outside weather permitting.

**Newsletter.** Agnes asked that all articles and announcements be submitted by July 24. She is asking for in-put from board members. She will highlight the FFI website which has virtual journeys, travel experiences, and learning opportunities. Diana suggested that we ask members on the call list to relate an interesting event or memory that may have from their previous journeys. Peter will submit instructions for Zoom meeting with screen shots to that members will be more comfortable with the application.

### **Old Business**

**By-Laws.** Stephanie made two changes to the by-laws; that the board can meet virtually when in-person meetings are not possible, and that the membership approval vote of the by-laws can be done by email or mail-in ballot. Magdi moved to approve the changes, Agnes seconded and the motion passed. The by-laws require that the membership have 30 days to review the revisions as well as a meeting to discuss or ask questions. Stephanie moved that there would be a zoom meeting for the members to discuss any changes at 30 days, Magdi seconded, and the motion passed. Martha moved that the voting will be by email or paper ballot, Dorothy seconded, and the motion carried. The bylaws will be sent to the members by July 10, and the zoom meeting will be on August 10. All ballots should be emailed or post-marked by August 12. All these announcements will be distributed by MailChimp to the members.

### **New Business.**

**Midwest Leaders meeting.** Sandi covered the pertinent points in her president's report. Most of the other clubs are doing similar activities to keep the members engaged.

**Inbound Journeys for 2020.** Stephanie suggested that we invite the two Australia clubs that we visited in 2019 together as their clubs are small. The requests for 2022 are submitted in August. Stephanie will confirm this with the field representative.

The next meeting will be August 12 at 12:30 via zoom.

This meeting adjourned at 2:33.

Respectfully submitted by Martha McGregor.