

Friendship Force of Wisconsin - Madison, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes September 9, 2020
Via Zoom

Sandi Wysock called the meeting to order at 12:36.

Present: Sandi Wysock Kathy Speck-Kemeny, Martha McGregor, Dorothy Baldwin, Mary Juckem, Peter Kaufman, Helen Ann Rugowski, Magdi Sebestyen, Agnes Rona, Gail Holmes, Stephanie Sorensen, Mike Lambert.

New Officers: Doug Johnson-Vice President elect, Diana Rodum-Secretary elect.

Minutes. There were no corrections. Gail Holmes moved to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Stephanie Sorensen, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report. Mary Juckem reported that the only activity was the addition of interest on the CDs. Helen Ann Rugowski moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Kathy Speck and the motion passed.

President's Report. Sandi reported that there were no additions. She thanked the board members for their continued service and dedication to the club. She went on to emphasize the need to grow the club in membership and to remain flexible to change and continue to try new things. It is important to meet the needs of current members as well as the older members who are not as active as they once were. Finally remember our mission.

Outreach. There was no report.

Membership. Helen Ann reported that there are 98 members. Vivian Norton, a member of the Quad Cities club, has moved to Madison and will be a new member.

Journey Coordinator. There was no report.

Newsletter. Agnes Rona reported that she has not been able to contact Tom Miller for photos and a story because he has been out of town. She did receive two stories from Jerry Fuller. She requested photos of the Driveway socials. Gail requested that the dates be checked for all activities and stories that were included in the newsletter. The newsletter deadline is September 18.

Activities. Gail reported that the Drinks on the Driveway on September 6th was a success. Three members hosted and eighteen individuals attended. On October 6th there will be another Drinks in the Driveway with different hosts, details will follow. Magdi Sebestyen has hikes planned for September 15 and October 11. Jan Hornback has planned a bike ride for September 16. The next meeting for the Second Harvest service project is September 24. Book Club meets on October 12 and Adopt-a-Highway will be October 21. Members should confirm dates and times for each event either in the newsletter or on the website.

Ad Hoc Committees.

By-Laws Committee. Stephanie sent a final report for the By-Laws revision committee. The revised By-Laws were approved by the membership in August. Magdi moved to accept the report, Agnes seconded and the motion passed.

Accumulated Funds. Martha submitted a final report for the Accumulated Funds committee. Of the \$2000 approved by the board, \$900 was spent which leaves a balance of \$1100. Agnes moved to accept the report, Kathy seconded, and the motion passed.

Introduction of new committee chairs: Outreach-Dorothy Baldwin; Membership-Helen Ann Rugowski – will remain chair until a new chair is appointed; Journey Manager-Stephanie Sorensen; Activities-Gail Holmes (co-chair vacant); Newsletter-Agnes Rona; Program Committee-Magdi Sebestyen and Mike Lambert (co-chairs). Kathy moved to approve these positions, Peter seconded, and the motion passed.

The meeting then transitioned to the new board.

New Business.

Inbound Requests. FFI has asked how many inbound journeys we will accept, who we have invited, and what we've cancelled or postponed. Discussion ensued about the Japan visit, how long we should delay it, and whether we should list it for 2022 instead of 2021 which may conflict with the Australian and the bike journey, as Australia has asked for 2022, and FFI sets the month. Our first choice is Japan for 2022 if the 2021 journey is cancelled, our second choice is Australia Central Coast and Tweed Valley and schedule the bike journey in September. There is a possibility of a domestic inbound journey. It was noted that due to the covid pandemic there may be a reluctance of members to host.

Goals and planning for 2021.

A Review of last year's strategic plan and goals will be discussed at the October meeting. Committee chairs should think about goals to submit in November.

Proposals.

Kathy Speck proposed a new ad-hoc committee to review and refresh the web site and our electronic tools. This was seconded and unanimously approved. Mail Chimp was discussed as a site for chapter email which can be accessed by any member.

Magdi suggested finding a FF chapter logo to adapt for imprint on face masks and/or tee shirts for our chapter.

The Board Welcomed... Mike Lambert, a new board member, is a retired lawyer from up North. He enjoys reading, following the news, biking and walking, among other things.

Next Meeting. October 14 at 12:30 – 2:30, via Zoom.