

Friendship Force of Wisconsin - Madison, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes April 14, 2021
Via Zoom

Kathy Speck called the meeting to order at 12:30.

Present: Kathy Speck, Diana Rodum, Mary Juckem, Magdi Sebestyen, Gail Holmes, Doug Johnson, Sandi Wysock, Dorothy Baldwin, Stephanie Sorensen, Lise Skofronick, Mike Lambert, Sandy Drew, Martha McGregor.

Excused Absence: Agnes Rona, Peter Kaufman

Minutes. The motion to accept the minutes from the March 10, 2021 meeting was seconded and passed.

Reports.

President's Report. Refer to Kathy Speck's President's Report in the appendix attached to these minutes.

Treasurer's Report. Refer to Mary Juckem's Treasurer's Report which had been sent by email to the board.

- The board had no questions about the report.
- There was \$145 income and no expenditures this month.
- Total funds are \$18,969.79.

Journey Coordinator. Refer to Stephanie Sorensen's Journey Report in the appendix.

- We are waiting for other clubs to respond regarding short exchanges.
- The Global Bike Journey this fall is the most likely to work out, as it can be done with only U.S. people.

Outreach. Refer to Dorothy's Outreach Report in the appendix.

- We are running out of brochures and need to design a new brochure, which includes the FFI logo and tag line changes.
- The pandemic continues to inhibit any outreach efforts.

Program Committee. Refer to Mike and Magdi's Program Report in the appendix.

- There will be another Trivia Night on May 19.

Membership. Refer to Lise's Membership Committee Report in the appendix.

- The quorum count is 25 for the annual meeting. Twenty-eight have responded so far, so at this time, it is tight with respect to the quorum requirement.
- Lise and volunteers will call members to encourage attendance at the annual meeting.
- It was decided that the annual meeting link will be sent to all members to ensure that everyone who wants to attend can do so.

Activities. Refer to Gail's Activities Report in the appendix.

- There were many successful activities since our last meeting, and several are scheduled:

- Book club will meet on 4/26 to discuss The Lost City of the Monkey God.
- There will be a Second Harvest volunteer event on 4/29.
- Gail proposed that Dining on the 6th could be a breakfast in a restaurant or outside, weather allowing.

Ad Hoc Committees

Nominating Committee. Sandy Drew reported for the nominating committee. Sandy had been unable to find a volunteer to take the role of secretary, so Sandy has kindly volunteered to take that job.

The email ballot for election of club officers that had been sent to the membership resulted in 46 responses thus far, which exceeds the required 25-member quorum.'

Covid Safety Committee. Refer to Kathy's President's Report in the appendix.

- We will follow the CDC and local public health guidelines.
- We will require proof of vaccination for incoming and outgoing journey participants.
- For in-person events, we will meet outdoors whenever possible.
- Sandi moved to accept the guidelines, and they were approved unanimously.
- Martha McGregor reminded event leaders that it is important that prior to any club event, they should review the public health links provided in the guidelines.

Events Peter was not in attendance to report.

FFI Updates. Kathy.

Members are encouraged to register for their individual **my.friendshipforce.org** account, which will link to a new "members only" website.

FFI will migrate member resources and other member information to that site. The original FFI website will shift its focus to target prospective members. FFI is conducting a member survey, and she encouraged everyone to respond to it. It is 50 questions long, so be sure to allow sufficient time. It can be started and saved for completion at a later time.

Electronics. Refer to Sandi's Electronics Communication Committee Report in the appendix.

- Sandi is requesting photos from past journeys and events to post to the website.

Old Business:

Annual Meeting: Kathy

- The draft agenda was discussed.
 - Photos of new members since our last annual meeting in April 2019 will be posted and those members will be introduced at the meeting.
 - In memoriam will list names and photos.
 - Kathy also requests photos of all board and committee members to include in a Power Point.
 - Doug recommended telling members to use the Chat function in Zoom to ask questions during the discussion and have someone present all the questions at the end of the meeting.
 - The FFI Regional Field Rep, Dale Moore, will provide updates.
 - We are encouraged to respond to the survey from FFI.

- Sandi suggested recording the meeting and Magdi pointed out that it must be announced at the beginning of the meeting for respect of privacy.
- It was agreed that member involvement be encouraged, such as presenting a slide of upcoming events, and announcing needs of various committees.
- It was noted that the member interest survey from our annual renewal forms is posted on the website. Kathy mentioned that she finds it to be a useful resource and encouraged board and committee chairs to use it to enlist participation.
- Stephanie suggested that new board members taking office in July receive orientation to the numerous resource documents prepared by the club.
- Gail asked that we sing “Let There be Peace on Earth” at the end of the meeting, as we have done at past meetings. Since there is a lag time on Zoom, it was suggested that a recording be played and everyone sing while muting their sound.

New Business:

Newsletter. Kathy reported in Agnes’ absence.

- Newsletter deadline is April 26.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM. Mike moved to adjourn, Gail seconded, and it was unanimously agreed.

Next meeting is May 12, 2021 12:30 – 2:00.