

Friendship Force Knoxville  
Board Meeting  
March 10, 2020

Present: Kaye Bultemeier, Janis Robinson, Bruce Robinson, Ron Mayer, Leslie Badaines, Diana Lopez, Betsy Tonkin, Jonathon Hash, Barbara Elder, and Don Dougall.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the February 4, 2020 Board Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was approved.

Bruce reiterated that fees for International Journeys must be paid 60 days in advance.

Vice President's Report:

There was one guest at last general meeting, and she is receiving information on FFK. She will be advised to sign up for membership with us and not FFI for collection of fees.

Open World:

Betsy Tonkin brought the Board up to date on the Open World Judicial program for Uzbekistan approved for June 13-20, 2020. She still needs a couple of hosts which will be procured from Knoxville's legal community. She has drafted an itinerary, but it will depend largely on what interests the judges have. She anticipates trouble getting hosts with the present health concerns. There will be 5 judges, 1 facilitator, and 1 interpreter with a total of 7.

Programs:

The programs for the rest of the year are planned except for May and September, although those might be for information about Uzbekistan and Australia respectively. The date for the November meeting falls on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Janis will move our reservation to the 3rd Tuesday of November to allow time for the Club election to take place at that meeting.

Journeys:

Australia Outbound

Leslie Badaines reported that 12 ambassadors have submitted applications. There is room for one more single or couple. There will be a meeting on March 13 for reviewing options from clubs and to negotiate fees. The travel dates are October 21-November 4. It has been advised to wait a time before securing travel plans because of the virus outbreak in China.

Des Moines visit to Knoxville

Diana Lopez reported that the committee is on schedule with the itinerary and had just met previously before Board Meeting. The budget has been approved. A minimum of 30 people is required for the farewell dinner at Calhoun's - 10 ambassadors and 20 members. Tree planting with plague will be at 9:00 AM on Friday, April 24 in the Knoxville Botanical Gardens.

#### Napa Sonoma Outbound

Jayne Raparelli revealed that the cost to ambassadors will be \$125-\$150 per person. As yet, there is no coordinator; Jayne has been corresponding with a member of their Board. Six people from FFK have signed up with a maximum of 12 allowed. The deadline for signing up for Napa Sonoma trip is April 1, 2020.

#### Newsletter:

Don Dougall wondered if a new deadline schedule would be appropriate for the newsletter, but it was the opinion of the president that we continue with the 15th of the month with leeways given.

#### Website:

There was discussion about the slow progress on the FFK website. Janis reiterated that Go Daddy's new version was complicated, and volunteers are needed to help.

#### Old Business:

The treasurer contacted the five people whose names had been suggested by the president at last month's meeting to form an advisory committee, and they all agreed to serve.

It was moved by the treasurer that the finance committee give guidance on how to use excess funds in the exchange account including a recommended minimum balance.

There was discussion and the vote was favorable with all present agreeing. The president instructed the treasurer to call the committee together and report back to the Board.

The Board revisited the policy for awarding honorary membership. Bruce stated the current policy which is that "an honorary membership will be given to members who have completed 30 years of continuous membership with FFK. Honorary members will not be required to pay dues." After brief discussion, the Board did not change the policy.

#### Publicity:

Jonathan Hash reminded the Board that FFK will be having their 40th anniversary in 2021. It was suggested he ask via the Newsletter for volunteers to help plan an event. There are boxes of memorabilia and historical documents that could be used.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Elder*

