

Friendship Force Knoxville

Board Meeting

August 4, 2020

Present via ZOOM: Kaye Bultemeier, Jayne Raparelli, Bruce Robinson, Janis Robinson, Diana Lopez, Sandy Kehne, Barbara Elder, Ray Simko, Don Dougall, Leslie Badaines.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the July 7, 2020 Board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer, Bruce Robinson, reported that there were no expenses nor revenue in the month of July, and thus FFK's account balances have not changed. The Board will further discuss the 2021 dues at the next meeting.

Vice President's Report: Jayne Raparelli reported that there are no new members, and FFK's meeting place at TVUUC will not be available until probably 2021 at the earliest because of the Pandemic.

Programs: Janis Robinson, Program Chair, reported that our club has a program for the August 25, 2020 meeting by Kaye Bultemeier and Noel Kuck on their trip on the Trans-Siberian Railway. The meeting will take place using ZOOM and will be a model for how we might conduct other programs. There are other speakers who would be willing to give a presentation to FFK via ZOOM, and we will be learning how this works over time.

The TVUUC will not be renting out space in their building until certain levels are reached with regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. Their building will probably not be available until January 2021 or even later for FFK to use for our meetings.

Janis will try to communicate with other FF clubs to find out how they are handling keeping their members engaged using virtual tools. Some have a group of members who meet monthly to share and critique their digital photos; others have trivia games their members play. As always, any ideas are welcome.

Journeys: Diana Lopez reported that the forms to request inbound and outbound journeys for 2022 will be forthcoming in August and September. Diana reviewed the form for inbound international journeys and obtained input for completion. At the appropriate time, Kaye will submit the form. The outbound journey form will be discussed in September.

The Board then discussed what to do about the San Antonio journey to Knoxville in October, 2020. It was decided that due to the increase in cases of COVID-19 and deaths in Knox County, the journey will be postponed until October 2021, with 2022 as a backup. Leslie will respond to Hope Robles.

There was nothing new with the other journeys scheduled apart from 2021 Romania/Azerbaijan Outbound. There are currently six people interested in going. There is another group coordinated by Bobbie Mulholland from Adelaide, Australia that is assessing interest in a journey to Armenia and Azerbaijan. Diana contacted Bobbie and let her know our plans and that perhaps we could work together for a viable journey.

New Business: The President requested the phone tree contact all members to ask the following questions.

- 1) Interest in attending a small outdoor gathering of 6-10 people
- 2) Ask if they read the monthly newsletter
- 3) Ask if they visit the website
- 4) Suggestions for the Board
- 5) Interest in helping with:
 - a. 40th Anniversary celebration
 - b. Assisting with Go Daddy account to allow for donation online.

The President asked the Activities and Program chairs if they would like to have co-chairs for next year.

There was discussion regarding renewal fees for 2021, which was tabled until the following monthly Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Elder