

Friendship Force Knoxville
Board Meeting
April 10, 2019

Present:

Kaye Bultemeier, Don Dougall, Jeana Johnson, Sandy Kehne, Jean Mayer, Ron Mayer, Jayne Raparelli, Bruce Robinson, Janis Robinson, Joanne Schuetz, Ray Simko

Kaye called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Meeting location was the Egg and I in Bearden.

Kaye informed the board that Ron Mayer had graciously agreed to serve as "temporary" journey coordinator for FF. She also reported that Jeana Johnson had agreed to take phone photos of our events. They were both thanked.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the March 13, 2019 were approved with the following amendments:

Kaye stated that Joanne Schuetz had given her a copy of the Knox chapter journey guidelines from 2006 and had inserted some corrections. This was badly needed and would be discussed at a later meeting after board members have had an opportunity to review the suggested revisions.

A motion was passed to eliminate the Chinese auction.

Minutes were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce presented the Treasurer's report which was accepted by the board.

Programs/Activities

Janis reported that the programs are set and are as follows: April will be an urban walking tour with Mike McDonough and Jayne Raparelli; May will be a presentation about South Africa by Dr. Sarel Van Amstel; June will be Dinners with Members; September will be a speaker about the Republic of Georgia.

Journeys

Ron reported that he has been in contact with all the journey coordinators for 2019.

Gus and Annalisa Roehrig are the journey coordinators for the Des Moines, Iowa journey which will be held August 7 (arrive) through August 12 (depart). There are twelve ambassadors going on this trip.

Mike McDonough and Jayne Raparelli are the inbound journey coordinators for the Napa/Sonoma journey. There are seven ambassadors coming. Mike and Jayne are well along in the planning process and are benefiting from the cancelled South Africa inbound journey.

Joanne Schuetz is the coordinator for the Open World group who will arrive in Knoxville on November 15 and depart on November 23. There will be eight people including an interpreter and a translator. The emphasis is higher education. Joanne will plan all of the activities.

The outgoing journey to Australia for 2020 involves two clubs that we will visit on successive weeks. The two clubs, North Moreton and Central Coast, are in conversation as to the dates of the journey and will let us know as soon as they decide.

By-laws

Bill Cherry has been reviewing the FFK By-Laws for consistency. The board passed a motion that Bill proceed with the preparation of new By-laws.

Old Business

A reservation was made at Calhoun's Restaurant requiring a \$300 deposit. This was in anticipation of having a farewell dinner for the incoming Cape of Good Hope journey. The journey was cancelled but the deposit was not refundable. Calhoun's will honor the reservation until June 30, 2020.

New Business

Ray Simko and Janis Robinson talked about our current web provider, GoDaddy, which is changing their service and has offered FFK the opportunity to switch over to the new service at a reduced price. The current cost for this service is about \$300 for 1 year including the SSL security. The new contract would be for about \$280 for 3 years also including the SSL security. The options to the club would be to find another provider or move to this new service since the old service will be discontinued. Janis will verify more information about this change but the Board motioned and passed the request to move to this new less expensive contract. One advantage of the new contract will be a "Members Only" section where the club can put personal information and resources that would only be available to club members, such as copies of the Club Directory.

The three tulip poplar trees which we received from the Knoxville Botanical Gardens need to be planted. We were given these trees to be planted as a symbol of unity for each of our upcoming journeys. The tulip poplar is the Tennessee state tree. We need a place to create a garden for Friendship Force. Joanne suggested that we plant the trees at the Botanical Gardens. The first one to plant would be in October when the Sonoma group

comes. Kaye will look into options for creating an area for FFK exchanges and planting of the trees to symbolize the program.

It was suggested that each of our members invite a guest to the May FFK meeting.

We have a good start in securing dinner hosts for June. Six members have volunteered to host a dinner. This activity would replace the summer picnic.

Journey Policies

There was lengthy discussion concerning journey policies including an application fee and giving compensation to journey coordinators. A motion was approved to require a \$25 fee to accompany the ambassador application sent to the journey coordinator. This fee will be non-refundable if the applicant decides not to go on the journey. If the applicant goes on the journey, the \$25 will be applied to the ambassador's journey fees.

A second motion was approved which would give \$100 credit to a journey coordinator for incoming and outgoing, domestic and international journeys of five days or longer. This credit is given to the journey coordinator for use on a future FF journey, mission, or conference. This credit will be held for the journey coordinator for two years and will expire, if not used, two years from the completion of the Knoxville FF journey. Any unused funds will remain in the Exchange Treasury.

A third motion was approved that no one will receive an "earned seat."

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Jean Mayer
Secretary