

Friendship Force Knoxville

Board Meeting

February 9, 2021

Present via ZOOM: President Jayne Raparelli, Vice President Betsy Tonkin, Treasurer, Bruce Robinson, Secretary, Barbara Elder, Janis Robinson, Kaye Bultemeier, Diana Lopez

President's Report: The meeting was opened at 2:05 P.M. on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 by the President, Jayne Raparelli. Jayne reported on who cannot attend today's meeting; however, we still have a quorum. She thanked all Board members who followed up with membership renewals. Last month's program was well received with speaker FFI President and CEO Jeremi Snook. Jayne was glad to see some newer members attend the event. She thanked Bruce Robinson for suggesting the idea to have Jeremi Snook speak to us. Bruce attended a FFI webinar where Jeremi offered to speak to clubs. If you would like to learn more, register for the FFI webinar Revitalizing the FF Image, Logo and Brand. All leaders are invited, and Jayne has sent the link to you.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the January 2021 FFK Board meeting were approved. The minutes from the FFK General Membership Event on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: There was no revenue in January 2021 for the Operating nor Journey (Exchange) Accounts. There was an expense of \$1120 in the Operating Account for the 2020 FFI affiliation fees, but no expenses in the Journey (Exchange) Account. As of February 3, 2021, we had 52 regular members and three honorary members. Five members did not renew for this year, and we have not heard from one member. New directories will be sent via email to all members.

The Board thought it would be helpful for our records to know the year members joined FFK. Bruce will send an email to members requesting that information, which he will then add to his data.

Vice President/Program Committee Report: As acting Program Committee Chair, Betsy Tonkin held a committee meeting on February 8, 2021 with Phyllis Driver, Helen Bachrach, and Vicki Creed.

February 23 – Journey to Romania given by a Dallas FF member via ZOOM. It was suggested that a book or recipe could be recommended by the committee to correspond with the programs.

March 23 – Down Memory Lane emceed by Ron Mayer. It was recommended that a description for each program appear in the meeting notice and on the website.

April 27 – Adventures in South Africa and Zambia given by Betsy Tonkin.

May 25 – FFI Global Journey to Myanmar given by Diana Lopez.

June 22 – Peace Corps Experience in Malawi given by Kaye Bultemeier and Noel Kuck. (tentative currently)

The Committee voted to become a joint **Membership/Program Committee**, since the missions of both are intertwined, particularly during this time frame when travel is not an option, and because there is not a volunteer to chair either committee.

Vice President/ Membership Chair: Betsy proposed a **New Member Packet** which would be distributed to new members by the Membership Committee Chair. This would include the membership badge, a welcome letter from the President, the membership directory, and a list of helpful web links. It was also suggested that the President or Vice President set up a Q&A ZOOM or in-person meeting at least quarterly to welcome new members, provide basic information, and answer questions. Another suggestion was to assign a mentor to each new member.

Journey Coordinators: Diana reported no changes to the journeys to date. We are waiting to hear from FFI about our 2022 matches. Then the committee will meet and move forward on plans for this fall and next year.

Communications Committee: Janis reminded the Board of the February 12, 2021 deadline for submissions for the Newsletter.

Historian: Jonathan is still working on a content list of what he is finding in boxes of FFK papers and documents.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Elder

On February 12, 2021, Treasurer Bruce Robinson moved that FFK make a \$50 donation to Friends of the Smokies in remembrance of Paul Haas, who died on February 5, 2021 and who was an honorary member of FFK. The motion was seconded by Diana Lopez, and the Board vote via email was unanimous in favor of the memorial.