

Friendship Force Knoxville

Board Meeting

March 9, 2021

Present via ZOOM: President Jayne Raparelli, Vice President Betsy Tonkin, Treasurer Bruce Robinson, Secretary Barbara Eder, Janis Robinson, Diana Lopez, Kaye Bultemeier, Leslie Badaines, Sandy Kehne.

President's Report: President Jayne Raparelli opened the meeting at 2:05 P.M. Jayne noted that we have made a lot of progress since last month's board meeting which will be covered in our agenda. She thanked everyone for diligently working on their tasks, saying "your efforts have paid off."

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the February 2021 FFK Board meeting were approved. The minutes from the FFK General Membership Event on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: There were \$40 of dues revenue in February 2021 for the Operating budget and a \$23.62 expense for name tags. There were no revenues nor expenses in the Journey (Exchange) Accounts.

Vice President/Membership-Program Chair Report: As acting Program Committee Chair, Betsy Tonkin held a committee meeting on March 8, 2021 with Helen Bachrach, Dee Pierce, and Vicki Creed.

Updates on upcoming programs:

March 23 – FFK Journeys – Down Memory Lane program coming together with help from Diana Lopez.

April 27 – Given the current situation in Myanmar, Diana has agreed to do her Myanmar Global Journey program in April instead of May.

May 25 – Betsy's presentation on South Africa moved to May.

June 22 – New members Marsha and Art Mitchell have agreed to do a presentation on their two years in Kosovo.

July 27 – none yet planned.

August 24 – Helen has confirmed with UT professor Dr. John Schwartz regarding a presentation on the sabbatical year he spent in the Czech Republic.

September 28 – presentation on the Outbound Journey to Napa-Sonoma?

October 26 – dinner meeting with San Antonio ambassadors?

November 23 – none yet planned.

On a potential membership issue, the committee discussed the updated CDC guidelines and impact on in-person meetings in the future. Committee consensus was to wait 2 months and consider status and CDC guidelines at that time before making any decision.

Journey Committee Co-Chairs: Leslie Badaines and Diana Lopez

Leslie Badaines reported that the Journey Committee has met twice to discuss a possible recommended policy, regarding the pandemic, for our Journeys during the remainder of this year. The Board discussed the safety issues and came up with recommendations which will be included in the Newsletter and then voted on at the next regular Board meeting after input from the general membership.

Leslie also reported on our upcoming journeys and the 2022 matches from FFI to Lower Columbia and to Australia, and from Des Moines to Knoxville.

Open World: Betsy Tonkin shared a letter from Britton Holmes, Open World Programs Coordinator.

- A. Open World Leadership Center will continue their focus on virtual programming until travel can resume. They are still open to working with us on any virtual reunions our club would like to put together.
- B. OWLC plans to incorporate virtual programming into regular delegations.
- C. Open World is still planning to honor program assignments from 2020 once we can start travelling again.

Open World asked Betsy to put together a 2020 Final Report to summarize the year and highlight the virtual programs our club participated in.

Even though FFK participates in Open World as volunteers, there are funds available to clubs that participated in virtual programs in 2020.

They are sending FFK \$300 in compensation for the time and effort spent on programming in this unique situation.

Communication Chair: Janis Robinson

Article submission: The date to submit articles for the March 2021 Newsletter is March 12th.

Member profiles: The Membership committee has suggested profile articles about new members who joined starting 2021. Discussion about including profiles about current members suggested either having an article about a new member and a current member in the same edition or alternating between new and current members. Current members might begin with the longest-term members first. Janis and Betsy Tonkin will talk about that. The March Newsletter will start with the new member Vicki Creed who joined in January 2021.

FFK Journey COVID Policy: The Journey committee has drafted a proposal policy for FFK regarding how we might handle being ambassadors and hosting other clubs when we begin travelling again after COVID. Diane will send out a copy of the proposal to members via email, and Janis will attach a copy at the end of the March Newsletter.

Book recommendations: The Program committee would like to begin including book recommendations pertaining to each monthly event topic in the Newsletter. For each topic, the speaker (or others?) will provide the titles and authors of books that relate to that topic. In order to give members a chance to find and read/review the books before each event, the programs and books should be in the Newsletter for as far in advance as is possible. For example, the March Newsletter will include suggestions through May.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Elder