

Friendship Force Knoxville
Board Meeting
October 9, 2019

Present:

Kaye Bultemeier, Diana Lopez, Jean Mayer, Ron Mayer, Jayne Raparelli, Bruce Robinson, Janis Robinson, Karen Setzfand, Ray Simko

Diana Lopez called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Meeting location was TVUUC.

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the September 11, 2019 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce Robinson distributed copies of the proposed and projected budget. As of October 2, 2019, the operating account has a balance of \$1,052.53. The operating account is not much changed from the previous month. If we use the original budgeted amounts, we would have about \$390 on December 31, 2019 prior to paying fees to FFI. The journey account has \$5,041.14. Twenty-two people have paid \$30 for the Napa-Sonoma farewell dinner, and we have received the \$1,125 in fees from the Napa-Sonoma Friendship Force Club. We have incurred \$98.60 of expenses to date for their journey. Fees for 2020 are due by December 31, 2019. Bruce reviewed with the board the revised Dues and Membership Renewal form for 2020. There was discussion about how to get people involved in the club leadership and activities. Several changes were made. Bruce will revise the form and resend to the board.

Programs

Janis Robinson thanked Ron Mayer for coordinating the September program on the Des Moines Journey. Janis would like to get a committee for programs, most importantly someone who could do the connections to set up the TV in the Fellowship room. She indicated that it also would be great to have several people to do work with the speaker and do the introductions. That would spread out the work of coordinating with the speakers. These ideas go along with the effort to get more of our members involved by serving on a committee. Programs are set for the remainder of this year but Janis would like a group committee to plan for next year. The November 2019 meeting will be presented by the Open World ambassadors from the Republic of Georgia.

Journeys

Jayne Raparelli reported for the Napa-Sonoma journey that 45 people plus the band will be attending the welcome dinner and 40 people have paid for the farewell dinner. T-shirts will be available for \$10 at the welcome dinner.

Ron Mayer reported that Joanne Schuetz has been in contact with Open World but to date has not received specific information as to who is coming. She continues to work on the program. Kaye Bultemeier reported that Senator Blackburn will be giving the Open World ambassadors a tour of Washington D.C.

Diana Lopez, Host Coordinator for Des Moines, reported that up to 16 ambassadors could be coming to Knoxville April 22-27, 2020. They are pleased with the itinerary for the Napa-Sonoma journey and would like to follow it.

There is no additional information about the outgoing journey to Australia.

Jayne Raparelli reported that the outbound Napa-Sonoma journey will be in late August 2020. Diana Lopez wrote a proposal to request an Open World exchange for next year. The theme is National Parks with an emphasis on the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The visitors will be primarily environmentalists.

FFI inbound/outbound journey requests for 2021 are: #1 - England, #2 - Romania (with a second week in Georgia), and #3 - Columbia (with a second week in Costa Rica). Diana will submit the request to FFI.

Communication/Website

We continue to work on the calendar and the website. A November newsletter is due on November 3rd. Diana Lopez said that she thinks we should have a newsletter every month. Janis Robinson reported that after another reminder, the technician from our calendar company returned a message with a new procedure to try to get the calendar to work in the new website.

New Business

Karen Setzfand reported from the nominating committee the following 2020 candidates for office:

President - Kaye Bultemeier, Vice-President - Jayne Raparelli, Secretary - Barbara Elder, and Treasurer - Bruce Robinson.

Bruce Robinson had previously sent out to the board copies of original By-laws, and Policies and Procedures and also revised copies to be reviewed before the board meeting. A motion was made to accept the revised by-laws. Discussion followed and after making several changes the board voted to accept the document with revisions to be presented to the general membership for a vote in November.

A motion was subsequently made to accept the Policies and Procedures. After much discussion, a motion was passed to approve the Policies and Procedures as amended.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Jean Mayer
Secretary