

Friendship Force of Central Iowa (FFCI)
Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday, May 8, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
Zoom Online Meeting

Present: Alta and Jerry Byg (Co-Treasurers), Sedahlia Crase (President), Margaret Eplin (Secretary), Joan Mathews (Membership), Robert Strahan (Co-Past President)

Excused: Corry Bertelsen (Co-Chair Activities)

1. **Call to order** The Zoom online meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Crase.
2. **Approve Agenda**
Strahan **made a motion, seconded** by Mathews to **approve** the Agenda. **Motion carried.**
3. **Approve March 13, 2021, Board meeting minutes**
Mathews **made a motion, seconded** by Strahan to **approve** the March 13, 2021, minutes. **Motion carried.**
4. **Reports** (This is the time to ask questions or make comments about the written reports. We will not have recitation of the reports.)
 - a. **Treasurer's Report, Alta/Jerry Byg**
The Treasurer's report was unchanged from the March Board meeting
 - b. **Membership, Mathews**
Mathews reported no new members or removed members since the March report.
 - c. **Communications**
Open position
 - i. **Historian**
Open position.
 - ii. **Information Technology**
Eplin will report in Old Business, 5c below.
 - iii. **Newsletter**
Open position. Guest edited. See Old Business 5a below.
 - iv. **Publicity**
Open position.
 - d. **Activities, C. Bertelsen/Starcevic**
Starcevic has accidentally been left off the Board email list. Crase will fix this issue.
Crase reported that a former member signed on the Valentine's Day Zoom call and enjoyed the event. They suggested a story-telling Zoom call. If we decide to do a story-telling activity, Mathews noted that we should use a paid Zoom account so that we don't get cut off and Strahan suggested a time limit.
Mathews reminded that Marilyn Paplow doesn't use email, wants to be active, and wants snail mail.
 - e. **Nominations, Crase**
Crase is working on finding a Vice President.
 - f. **Information via Regional Representative, Dale Moore, Crase.**
Crase reported on the monthly Zoom meetings with Regional Representative Moore and other presidents and club leaders. The most recent topic was "Be the Bridge", a program developed by an

FFI member in San Francisco. Crase will introduce Board members to “Be the Bridge” in New Business 6 a below.

Moore spent time at the Regional meeting helping FF members sign on to the new FFI website. This is discussed in New Business, 6 b below.

5. Old Business

a. Newsletters: Guest Editors

Crase will double check with Avant about guest editing the next newsletter.

b. Journeys Status (ongoing) (2022)

As reported from previous Board meetings, FFCI decided not to plan journeys for 2021 and 2022. As the pandemic subsides and everyone gets vaccinated, FFCI might consider hosting an inbound or a domestic outbound.

c. Website (Epplin)

Epplin reported that she has updated the FFCI website using WordPress. There is more work to be done on journeys. Epplin has had 3 Zoom sessions with Jim Ecklund, who helped create the FFCI website many years ago, still has FFCI user names and passwords, and is still involved keeping various other FF websites updated. Ecklund has been extremely patient and helpful, and Epplin is very thankful for his help.

Strahan noted that the entire FFCI club should be informed about the updated website. The Board said to keep the website simple.

Epplin needs the FFCI Facebook login information, and Crase will provide this information.

6. New Business

a. Be the Bridge

Crase shared her screen to present a slide show on an introduction to “Be the Bridge.” This program has several modules and introduces interested people and FF members to the mission and activities of FF. The FFCI Board felt that this is very good information to revitalize an FF club.

Board members suggested that the video from FFI describing this program be put on FFCI’s Facebook page. A Byg has “liked” the video on FFI’s Facebook page and will try to post the video on the FFCI website but doesn’t know if she can. Epplin will add a link to the video on the FFCI website.

A Byg **made a motion** to send the “Build a Bridge” video to FFCI members and invite them to participate in FFCI. Mathews **seconded**. **Motion carried**.

How FFCI uses or distributes the “Build a Bridge” information will be the main topic of the June 26 FFCI Board meeting. Crase asked Board members to come to the next meeting with motions prepared on how FFCI can use this program.

Perhaps “Build the Bridge” can also be used along with other information during an FFCI Board retreat; Crase will ask Moore.

b. Sign in to new FFI portal

FFI is now providing FF members to create individual accounts through the FFI website (MyFF). Crase, Strahan, and Mathews have completed the FFI sign-up. Strahan noted that it is easiest to go directly to my.friendshipforce.org to create an account.

c. Anything budget 2021 or 2022

Strahan reminded that a Board retreat was planned but had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Moore should be contacted to see if he will lead a retreat after the pandemic has subsided.

7. **Other issues None**

8. **Adjourn**

A Byg **made a motion** to adjourn. Strahan **seconded. Motion carried.**

Due to Board member vacations and visitors, the next Board meeting was changed from July 10 to Saturday, June 26, 9:30 a.m.

Margaret Epplin, Secretary