

Friendship Force of Central Iowa (FFCI)
Annual Meeting Minutes
Saturday, October 5, 2019
10 to 11 a.m., Ames Public Library

Present: Corry Bertelsen, Cheryl Binzen, Diane Bryne, Marybeth Buchele, Alta and Jerry Byg, Kueier Chung & Robert Strahan, Dennis and Dorothy Dake, Peggy Faden, Katherine Fisher, Jerry and Elaine Harms, Joan Herwig, Patricia Horton, Stu and Ginny Huntington, Carole Magilton, Joan Mathews, Virginia and Leeland Molgaard, Marilu and V.V. Raman, Karen Selby, Charene Starcevic, Marcia Thompson, Lynne Van Valin, Janet Wahl, Karen Wilson

Guests: Mary Richards, Carol Volker

1. **Call to order and approve agenda**

Strahan called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and reported a quorum was present. The Agenda was approved without a motion after a call for any additions or corrections.

2. **Approve Minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting**

The minutes were emailed to the entire membership previously and there were only slight corrections.

3. **Treasurer's Report, Binzen**

Binzen reported a General Balance of \$8,124.68 and a Journey Balance of \$8,436.50.

Treasurer Binzen submitted the following report:

FFCI Annual Meeting - October 5, 2019

Treasurer's Report

General Account Balance as of October 4, 2019 = \$8,124.68. At this time, it is anticipated that our fiscal year (December 31) will end with an estimated loss of \$350 and an estimated balance in the General Account of \$6,650. The loss is the result of an increase from FFI for our club dues. FFCI did not receive notice of this increase until May 2019 – several months after dues had been paid for this year. The increase in FFI club dues will be reflected in the budget for fiscal year 2020. It is the decision of the Board that FFCI membership dues will not increase at this time.

Journey (Exchange) Account as of October 4, 2019 = \$8,436.50. The detail for this account is as follows:

Basic balance = \$250.00

Georgia/Ukraine Outbound Journey = \$8,186.50. Travel dates October 22-29, 2019.

It is anticipated that accounting for the Journey will be finalized in November and an audit will be scheduled at that time. Upon completion of the audit and subsequent approval of the Board, any remaining funds will be transferred to the General Account. The Basic Balance of \$250.00 will remain the Journey Account.

4. **Committee Reports**

a. **Membership Report, Van Valin**

Van Valin reported that FFCI has 5 new member families in 2019. They are:

Alta and Jerry Byg, Suzanne Evans, Polly Gilbert, Joyce and Daryle Vegge, Janet Wahl. Alta and Jerry Byg and Janet Wahl were in attendance.

b. Communications, Dennis Dake

Dennis Dake displayed the new banner he and Roger Bertelsen have been working on with Heuss Printing. The Publicity Subcommittee, headed by Buchele, has ordered FFCI pins which will be available soon for less than \$3 each for all members.

c. Activities, Dorothy Dake

Dorothy Dake reminisced about the various FFCI events that have taken place the past year. These included 3 LEOs (Let's Eat Out), a holiday potluck, a summer picnic, World Friendship Day, and this annual meeting/35th anniversary celebration, at which the Belles of Iowa State provided a singing program.

5. Journey Reports

a. 2019 Outbound Journey, Kyiv Ukraine/Tbilisi Georgia, October 15 to 29, Oppedal, Hein, Co- Coordinators

The 2019 FFCI Outbound Journey will be to Ukraine/Georgia from October 15 to 29, 2019. There are 12 going to Kyiv and 11 to Tbilisi. Ambassadors are from FFCI (6), WI (2), OH, OK, Alberta and Vancouver.

b. 2020 Inbound Journey, Manitoba, Canada, Horton

The Committee is Lynn Avant (Chair), Pat Horton (co-chair), Joan Mathews, and Charene Starcevic. Horton reported on the general activities being considered for this Inbound Journey. The Committee is suggesting June 5 to 12 for the visit.

c. 2020 Outbound Hsinchu Taiwan and Saitama Japan, October 12-28 (Herwig and Chung)

The 2020 Outbound Journey will be to Hsinchu Taiwan and Saitama Japan on October 12 to 28, 2020. Chung and Herwig showed a video on Taiwan, then described the various activities planned. Japan will be visited first, and there will be a four-day extension in Taiwan.

6. 2021 Outbound Journey Survey Results

Strahan sent an email to the entire membership on October 2 with last year's worldwide Outbound Journey Survey results for 2020 provided for guidance. This year's Outbound Journey Survey results indicate our club for the 2021 year ranks Guadeloupe #1, South Africa #2, Australia #3. Strahan said a follow-up email will inquire whether we want to request a domestic as well as international outbound journey.

7. 2020 Officer Nominations (Nominating Committee Strahan, Chung, Buchele)

The Nominating Committee provided the following slate of officers for the 2020:

Vice President: none

Membership: none

Communications: Marybeth Buchele

Activities: none

Strahan entertained nominations from the floor.

The nomination was accepted by unanimous voice vote.

The FFCI Board will continue in its efforts to fill all positions.

Continuing officers are: Co-Presidents, Robert Strahan and Kueier Chung; Secretary, Margaret Epplin.

8. **FFI Acknowledgement of FFCI's 35th Anniversary**

Herwig symbolically presented Founding Members Elaine and Jerry Harms with FFI's certificate. Herwig then gave a history our club's activities.

9. **Adjournment**

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.

Submitted by Strahan and Joan Mathews