

FFCI Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday September 28, 2022
Zoom Online Meeting 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Present: Alta and Jerry Byg (Co-Treasurers), Sedahlia Crase (President), Dennis Dake (Newsletter), Margaret Epplin (Secretary)

1. **Call to order:** President Crase called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
2. **Approval of Agenda**
Epplin **made a motion** to approve the Agenda, A Byg **seconded. Motion carried.**
3. **Approval of minutes** of July 23, 2022, Board meeting
Epplin **made a motion** to approve the minutes, J Byg **seconded. Motion carried.**
4. **Reports:** Rather than recitation of reports, this is a time to ask questions, comment, discuss.

a. Treasurer (Bygs, Co-Treasurers)

The Co-Treasurers emailed the following report to the Board on September 26:

There have been no transactions in the Journey Account since July 22, 2022. Journey Account checkbook balance is \$250.

The July 22, 2022, General Account checkbook balance was \$5,403.75. Since then, 2 dues payment of \$40 from Stu Huntington and \$40 from Kitty Fisher were received and deposited. With these transactions the General Checking Account balance is \$5,483.75.

b. Membership

As reported in the Treasurer's report above, dues have been received from 2 additional members. Epplin will send a revised membership list to all FFCI members. As of September 28, 2022, dues have been received from 47 members.

c. Communication

Historian: Sedahlia is storing historical FFCI material at her home. Oppedal has agreed to sort the material according to guidelines established by the Board in May 2022.

Information Technology (website): Epplin is maintaining the website and posting minutes and newsletters.

Newsletter: Dennis Dake will publish the next FFCI newsletter around the middle of the October. The newsletter will include a letter from President Crase, perhaps info about the outbound Montana journey, and pictures of recent FFCI activities.

Publicity: Crase and all Board members should take pictures at activities and send the pictures to Dennis Dake for the newsletter.

d. Activities (recent and upcoming ones)

Crase and the Board thanked Alta and Jerry Byg for a very well-received and well-attended talk and slide presentation held at the Ames Public Library on August 18, 2022 about the Fall 2019 FFCI journey to Ukraine and Georgia. Crase also thanked the FFCI Board for hosting the event.

Crase and the Board thanked Dorothy Dake and Ginny Molgaard for the yummy September 8 potluck held at Moore Park. The music by the Belles of Iowa State and the singalong were enjoyed by all who attended.

Upcoming activities include:

On October 3, FFCI will ride the Empress pontoon boat on the Iowa River in Iowa Falls. Corry Bertelsen and Charene Starcevic are organizing this activity.

On Tuesday, October 18, FFCI members are invited to attend lawn games at Marcia Thompson's home from 4 to 6:30 p.m. The Committee will provide a soup supper. Note: This event was cancelled and will be held at a later date, possibly in 2023.

On Saturday, December 3, FFCI will hold its annual Holiday Potluck Party and white elephant gift exchange from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Village Co-Op, 2525 Bobcat Dr. Thanks to Judy Mongin for securing the location for this event.

5. Old Business

Cruse reported that FFCI member sign-up for the new FFI portal continues to be very low. Cruse is willing to help anyone complete this sign-up.

6. New Business

a. 2023 Journeys

Western Montana FF Club informed Cruse on September 8 that FFCI has been assigned to them for a domestic journey in 2023. Club presidents talked via phone and email on September 8 and will resume conversations in early October. Cruse will canvas FFCI for their date preferences.

b. Audit committee: Cruse is in the process of appointing an Audit Committee.

c. Nomination Committee for 2023 Officers

While it would be optimal if different FFCI members joined the Board, Epplin agreed to continue to serve as Secretary and the Bygs agreed to continue as Co-Treasurers. Dennis Dake will do the newsletter for a second year. Cruse will consider another year as President. Epplin volunteered to serve on the Nomination Committee.

d. Future plans, thoughts, possibilities (brainstorming)

Cruse continued the discussion from previous Board meetings about what FFCI can do to show its presence in the community. Some ideas are volunteer; purchase set up at Farmer's Market in late spring/summer; assist at Thursday evening events at Bandshell Park; have an FFCI team at the spring cleanup event (sponsored by *Ames Tribune*); serve meals at Food at First; participate in local senior fairs; write a guest opinion from the FFCI Board to *Ames Tribune* and *Des Moines Register* relating FF trips to world issues with brief description of FFI clubs in Ames and Iowa and their goals.

Cruse will propose a letter which could be submitted to news mediums throughout Iowa.

e. Annual Meeting

A Byg **made a motion** to hold the Annual Meeting via Zoom on October 8. Epplin **seconded** the motion. **Motion carried.**

Cruse will send an email to the entire FFCI membership with a link for the October 8 at 10 a.m. Zoom Annual Meeting. Bygs offered a Zoom version that will not expire at 40 minutes.

Cruse would like the Board to vote on changing the Annual Meeting date from October to November, effective in 2023. The current ByLaws read as follows:

Article VIII Section 2. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of FFCI shall be held no later than October 15 each year at a time and place to be designated by the President. Notice of the time and place of this meeting must be sent to each member at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting date. Whenever elections are to be held, the list of nominations pursuant to Article VI (Nomination and Election of Officers and Directors) of these ByLaws shall be made part of this notice.

7. Adjournment

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

The next Board meeting will be held via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, November 12.

The Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom at 10 am on October 8.

The Annual Holiday Potluck Party will be held on December 3 at 2525 Bobcat Dr, Ames.