

FFCI Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 14, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Zoom Online Meeting

Present: Alta and Jerry Byg (CoTreasurers), Sedahlia Crase (President), Dennis Dake (Newsletters), Margaret Eplin (Secretary)

1. **Call to order:** President Crase called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m..

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Eplin **made a motion** to approve the Agenda. J Byg **seconded. Motion carried.**

3. **Approval of Minutes** of November 12, 2022 Board meeting

A Byg **made a motion** to approve the November 12, 2022, Minutes. Eplin **seconded. Motion carried.**

4. **Reports:** This is a time for questions/comments rather than recitation of reports. (For now, Membership Committee, Communications, and Historian activities are not performed by Board members dedicated only to that one area due to lack of members willing to fill these roles as Board members; rather, they are performed by volunteers or by current Board members in various combinations.)

a. **Treasurer:** Alta and Jerry Byg, CoTreasurers

The CoTreasurers emailed the following report to the Board on January 13:

There have been no transactions in the Journey account since November 9, 2022. The Journey Account checkbook balance is \$250.

There have been no transactions in the General Account since November 9, 2022. The General Checking Account balance is \$5,483.75. FFI dues payment for 2022 will be submitted after the January 14, 2023, Board meeting.

The biennial report has been made to the Iowa Secretary of State for Friendship Force of Central Iowa.

The 990n filing for the Internal Revenue Service is on hold until IRS website maintenance is completed.

The budget for 2023 will need to be set up.

b. **Membership:** Campaign for dues renewal for 2023

Crase asked the CoTreasurers to send an email to the 2022 FFCI members requesting dues for 2023. Dues for 2023 will stay the same at \$40 per person, \$80 per couple. The email will include an FFCI renewal membership form, info about FFCI 2023 incoming and outgoing journeys, and news about the international meeting (info in New Business below). Co-Treasurers will send the proposed email to the Board for approval prior to sending to the FFCI 2022 membership.

i. **Information Technology-Website** (Eplin): Crase informed that FFI has people in various countries called technology partners who can help with website development. Eplin will check on this.

ii. **Newsletter** (Dennis Dake): The next newsletter will be published by the end of January and will include information on membership renewal and 2023 outgoing and incoming journeys. Dake will include a membership renewal form. Crase will supply info on the Montana outbound trip. Deadline for article submission is January 28.

iii. Crase encouraged the Board to continue to take pictures and submit to Dake for the newsletter. Crase will contact the Ames radio station and *The Tribune* to inquire about providing segments/articles on FFCI.

c. **Activities:** Crase has sent an email to FFCI membership asking for volunteers to design or recreate 2022's very successful activities in 2023. Kudos to Corry Bertelsen and Charene Starcevic who organized, encouraged, and coordinated individuals/small groups who designed FFCI activities in 2022. This was done with no obligation for Board service.

Crase will talk to Corry Bertelsen and Dot Dake about coordinating activities for 2023.

d. **Nominations** Nothing to report. FFCI needs members to accept officer nominations, especially for President and Vice President.

- e. **Information via Regional Representative's meetings:** Regional representatives meet over Zoom from 9 to 10 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month. Crase asked Board members to add their email to the invitation list. All Board members agreed to be added to the email list and to join the call as able.

5. Old Business

a. Journeys

Outbound: Western Montana (Missoula): FFCI has an outbound journey to Missoula MT scheduled for September 12 to 18. Crase is following up with another MT FF club, Flathead Valley Club, near Kalispell and Glacier, to see if FFCI could add a visit there, too.

Inbound: Long Island, NY: FFCI will be working with the Quad Cities FF group to host Long Island FF. Long Island FF will visit the Quad Cities for 4 days (probably beginning August 10) followed by a visit to Ames for 4 days (probably beginning August 14). Long Island FF would like to attend the Iowa State Fair. 10 to 15 people from Long Island FF are required for this outbound journey to materialize.

Epplin **made a motion** that Dennis Dake be a co-coordinator for the Long Island FF incoming journey. A Byg **seconded. Motion carried.**

Huntingtons have agreed to help Dennis Dake coordinate this journey.

- b. **FFI Membership Portal:** Members are encouraged to set up their account through the Friendship Force International Membership Portal.

6. New Business

- a. **Audit:** Roger Bertelsen will audit the FFCI un-audited year when he returns to town.

- b. **Future plans thoughts, possibilities (brain storming)**

FFCI has plans for activities and journeys and needs to continue to advocate for new members. A Byg informed the Board of a program on WHO from 11 to noon which spotlights different area organizations. Perhaps FFCI could work with the Des Moines club to have a segment on this show.

The International FFI annual meeting will be held in Dubrovnik Croatia in October 2023. Crase hopes some members of FFCI will attend.

7. Other issues, concerns, etc.

The Board has been discussing moving the date of the Annual Meeting to later in the year. Epplin will research how to change the ByLaws and will bring the information to the March Board meeting.

8. Adjournment

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

The next Board meeting will be held Saturday, March 11 9:30 to 11 a.m. via Zoom.

2023 Zoom Board meetings are scheduled for 9:30 to 11 a.m. on May 13, July 8, September 9, and November 11.

The FFCI Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 7 or 14.