

FFCI Board Meeting
Tuesday March 19, 2024

Present: Alta Byg, Jerry Byg, Charene Starcevic, Lynn Avant, Sedalia Crase.

Present on zoom: Dennis Dake, Marcia Thompson

The meeting was called to order by President Alta Byg at 4:04 p.m.

Approval of minutes September 9, 2023 & February 6, 2024 Board meeting was accepted as sent.

Approval of the Annual Meeting for October 8, 2023 needs to be approved at the 2024 annual meeting.

May 1 was set as the date for any information for Dennis Dake to put in the May-June newsletter, use May/Jun Newsletter in the subject line.

Jerry Byg presented the Treasurer's Report.

As of October 21, 2023, the journey checking balance was \$2,368.58. Two checks have been issued since then in the amounts of \$950 to Alta and Jerry Byg and \$1,168.58 to the FFCI general fund. \$950 was reimbursement of journey fees for missing the Missoula trip and \$1,168.58 was made to bring the journey account back to a balance of \$250. The general fund subsidized the journey fund \$1,000 to assure adequate funds available to cover the inbound and outbound journey expenses.

As of October 21, 2023 the General account check book balance was \$4,789.09. Five deposits were made into the account totaling \$2718.58. Four checks were issued to \$2,017.25 for dues payment to FFI (\$1,230); to Corey Bertelson (\$214.69) for February LEO expenses; and for web hosting (\$416.16) and site management (\$155.95). With this activity the General account balance is \$5,490.42.

We have 35 paid members to date.

Cheryl Binzen and Carole Magilton have agreed to audit the books.

Activity Committee: Corey is looking into Babe's in Radcliffe as a meeting place. Sedalia volunteered to organize an activity for September. July and November are still open. To volunteer to organize an event, contact Corey Bertelson or Charene Starcevic Events planned to date are:

May 13: International potluck dinner (Marybeth and Dot Dake)

June tbd: Picnic potluck at Ames Bandshell Park (Lynn Avant and Lynne VanValin)

July tbd: (Dot & Correy)

August 27 (Tuesday) Chair Yoga/Socializing (Chery Binzen and Macia Thompson)

September tbd (Sedalia Crase)

October tbd (Ginny and Stu Huntington)

November (Open)

December 7, Saturday 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. (Charene Starcevic and Corey Bertelson)

Discussion of the North American Conference in Milwaukee WI on October 7 – 10 2024 was discussed. If interested, register online at MyFriendshipforce.org. This is always a good conference and Milwaukee is a great host city. Cost is probably around \$230, no coverage for milage or rooms. Car pools may be arranged.

Historian: does anyone know the founding date of FFCI? Alta will check with Elaine Harms. Diane Oppedal has volunteered to work on this

Public outreach: (i.e. new members). Alta is researching brochures used effectively by other clubs, specifically Cleveland and NE Field Rep. Alta is also talking to OLLI regarding FFCI presentations.

World Friendship Day March 1 2025. Someone is **needed** to work on organizing this event for next March. In the past it has been our strongest public event. Alta has been talking to the Ames Library and several of the ISUWC interest groups such as Culture Sharing and Armchair Travelers to see if we might work together on a World Friendship Day in 2025.

Additional ideas discussed were contacting Open World for incoming hosting, having a presence at such central Iowa activities as Juneteenth, bandshell park concerts, a banner over Main Street in Ames and other communities.

Next Meeting: June 28, 2024. If you have something you would like added to the agenda, please send to Alta Byg, president.