**FFCI Board Meeting - Draft**

**Tuesday January 21, 2025**

Present: Alta Byg, Jerry Byg, Marcia Thompson, Cheryl Binzen, Charen Starcevic, Dot and Dennis Dake

The meeting was called to order by President Alta Byg at 4:00pm

Approval of Minutes for September 17, 2024, Board Meeting. The Minutes were accepted by unanimous vote.

Membership: We currently have 26 members and 2 associate members.

Membership will be cancelled for those who have not paid membership dues by **January 31st**

The Membership Form is attached. An updated Membership List will be sent early February.

The Membership log on to My.Friendshipforce.org

Treasurer: Submitted by Jerry Byg. The balance in the exchange account as of September 17, 2024, was $250.00. There have been no transactions in this account as of January 19, 2025, and the balance remains at $250.00

 As of September 17, 2024, the General account check book balance was $5513.57 Payments received during this period are: dues ($960), associate dues ($20), pin sales ($30) and donations ($130) which amount to $1,140.00.

Checks and debit card payments for expenses occurring during this period consist of pizza party ($62.03), facility fee ($70) printing expenses ($54.78), conference fee reimbursement ($265.23) and 2024 dues payment ($1080) to FFI which amount to $1532.04. With these transactions, the balance in the General Account is $5121.53.

The forms required by IRS and Iowa Secretary of State have been submitted.

Newsletter: Information for the next newsletter is to be submitted to Dennis Dake ddake@iastate.edu no later than **January 31st.**

Activity Committee: Activities have been planned for every month except May and August. To volunteer to organize a get together contact Charene Starcevic at larcha1623@gmail.com, Dot Dake at dotdake42@gmail.com or Margaret Epplin at MargaretEpplin@gmail.com

Incoming Journeys for 2025: The Brandon Friendship Force to Ames incoming to Ames is to be September 23-30, 2025

FFI North American Conference: The Conference for 2025 has been canceled. The 2026 Conference will be held in the US.

Public Outreach: World Friendship Day 2025. Alta has contacted ISU Women’s Club, Culture Sharing & Armchair Travelers to see about working together to plan a World Friendship Day. The Ames Public Library does not seem like an option for the event. Other location options were discussed. To help with organizing something for this event, contact Alta Byg altajerbyg@gmail.com.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:17pm