

Minutes of FFGM Board Meeting February 2, 2015 (Final - emailed 4-7-15)

Present: Dave Kalan, Doris Mueller, Rosie Haas, Doris Small, Mary Goeks, Gary Drescher, Ann Line, Dale Harmelink, Sara Harmelink, Donna Baldwin- Haut, Dee Birschel

Excused: Mary Hauser, Ed Kelley, Anne Szczygiel, Bob Blazich

1. Minutes -

Motion – by Dale Harmelink: To accept the minutes as e-mailed from the December 1, 2014 board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
In future, minutes will indicate if they are draft or final and include the date of distribution.

2. Treasurer – Dale Harmelink reported

Accounts: General Checking Account: \$6,621.42. General Restricted Account: \$10,000. Restricted Account: \$5,100.00. Total Cash: \$21,721.42.

2014 Actual Projected Income Statement: Dale reviewed and noted total income of \$7,796.08 and total expenses of \$4,758.54, with a surplus of \$3,037.54.

2015 Actual Projected Income Statement: Dale reviewed and noted actual income and expenses to date resulting in net income of \$1,739.11.

The 2015 budget was reviewed. The increase in FFI fees was noted. The 2015 budget will be corrected to include a \$100 donation to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for use of their facilities for board meetings. After discussion of the benefit of the Meet & Greet functions for member retention and membership growth, there was a

Motion – by Dale Harmelink: That the Meet & Greet Chair has the option to expend up to \$80 for each event to be taken from the Membership Development Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Membership: 119 members with 51 singles and 34 families. Included are 5 new singles and 2 new families.

Exchange Account: Costa Rica \$17,765.00. Switzerland \$31,200.00.

Audit: Ed Kelley has agreed to audit the books in April, 2015.

Motion – by Donna Baldwin-Haut: To accept the Treasurer's report subject to audit. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Vice President – Sara Harmelink noted that she has prepared a list of the languages and areas of interest members indicated on their application.

4. President – Rosie Haas

Outbound 2016 – Rosie noted we didn't get our choices and there was discussion of other possible exchanges (Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, Athens, Education First,

Road Scholar or wait for the exchanges that cancel or lead a NextGen exchange). Dave and Rosie will stay in contact with FFI regarding available exchanges.

Domestic exchanges in 2016. There was discussion of various possibilities including inbound or outbound Quad Cities, IA or Tallahassee outbound. Also discussed was a possible mystery weekend or weekend exchange to attract younger, working members and/or holding joint activities with Madison and Northern IL. A committee composed of Doris Small and Ann Line will investigate weekend event options and come back to the board with suggestions. Sara Harmelink volunteered to work with Bob Blazich to look into an exchange with Tallahassee.

Leadership Exchange in 2016. Dave feels we could host a Leadership Exchange with very little additional work. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting when we will have a firmer 2016 calendar.

Electronic newsletter. The cost of printing and mailing the newsletter in hard copy was discussed. After a lengthy discussion, there was a

Motion – by Doris Mueller: That beginning with the 2016 membership year, there will be a \$10 additional charge for members who wish to receive the newsletter in hard copy. All members will continue to receive a complimentary email copy of the newsletter. Motion carried.

Community Volunteerism. Dave Kalan suggested we may want to facilitate cultural exchanges by coordinating opening homes to one or two international college students for a holiday dinner or other occasions. He will contact UW-M and Marquette and report back to the board. Rosie Haas volunteered to form a committee to focus on reaching out to other international residents in the area, such as English-as-second-language students.

5. 2015 Schedule

5th at 5 – Dale Harmelink reported they are going well. Upcoming events are:

February – at the Harmelink's focusing on Costa Rica

March – St. Patrick's Day theme

April – no event

May – Cinco de Mayo theme

June and forward, looking for others to volunteer to help organize

Outbound FF Ciudad de las Flores, Costa Rica – February 24-March 10 – Rosie Haas & Donna Baldwin-Haut – Exchange is full with 16 ambassadors.

Midwest Regional Leadership Conference, Cedar Rapids – April 30-May 3 – The club can send three delegates maximum plus Dave Kalan as an International Board member. Rosie Haas, Sara Harmelink and Dale Harmelink plan to attend. After discussion,

Motion – by Donna Baldwin-Haut: That the club provides \$300 to be split among the four delegates to partially reimburse the conference fee. Motion carried unanimously.

Outbound Solothurn, Switzerland – May 5 to 20 – Gary Drescher and Ed Kelley – Exchange is currently full with 18 ambassadors.

Inbound Mexico & Central AZ - June 25-July 1 – Sara Harmelink- Will hold a Workshop February 7th, 9:30am at the Wauwatosa Library. FF Comitán probably won't send ambassadors but FFI is in touch with two other Mexican clubs who may. Sara asked for help planning the exchange and noted that Minnesota will host Mexico over the holiday weekend, and Madison will host Central Arizona before us.

Inbound English Learning Exchange from Guadeloupe – July 31 to August 7 – Ann Line - Ann will travel to Guadeloupe in February so she will have a chance to directly plan the exchange with the Guadeloupe Club. Next workshop is March 13th. Madison will host the week before (July 24-31).

Outbound Olympia, Washington, before World Conference in Vancouver – Doris Mueller and Mary Goeks. Seventeen ambassadors have signed up to date.

Open World – October 24 to November 1 – Mary Hauser and Bob Blazich – OW delegation from Ukraine with the topic of Protection of Children's Rights. There was no report.

6. 2016 Schedule

Inbound New Plymouth, New Zealand – September. Oklahoma and Chicago also to host. We have received a request from this chapter and need an ED.

7. Membership – Dave Kalan noted he is planning two events for new members.

8. Activities - Doris Small reported on upcoming events.

Chudnow Museum/lunch at Miss Katie's Diner – February 18, 15 have registered

Annual Fish Fry – April 17 at Serb Hall

Annual Picnic – August 5 during Guadeloupe Exchange

25th Anniversary Event – Doris/Dale – tentatively planning a performance event in September

9. Communications/Website/Newsletter – Doris Mueller noted the Newsletter deadline : February 9th. She will not be able to send club emails from February 24 – March 11. The website has been updated.

10. Next Board Meeting: Monday, April 6, 2015 at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Birschel, Secretary