

Minutes of FFGM Board Meeting, February 5, 2018

Present: Donna Baldwin-Haut, Dale Harmelink, Sara Harmelink, Rosie Haas, Mary Hauser, Dave Kalan, Ann Line, Doris Mueller, Sue Pack, Anne Szczygiel

Excused: Louise Cieslak, Dorothy Kelley, Ed Kelley, Cris Reischl, Nancy Rubly.

Also in attendance: Gary Drescher

Meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by President Sara Harmelink.

1. Minutes – Motion was made by Donna Baldwin-Haut, seconded and carried: To accept the minutes of the December 4, 2017 board meeting as emailed.
2. Treasurer's Report – Dale Harmelink reported.
 - Cash Accounts: General Checking Acct. \$11,167.57 Restricted Acct. \$8,151.47 Exchange Acct. \$9,717.64 Wellington Fund \$7,681.86 (Mkt Value). Operationally, income & expenses: 2018 to date, actual income is \$3,715.00 and actual expenses are \$1,689.95, leaving \$2025.05 excess Income over Expenses.
 - Exchange/Journey Acct. Balance: The only outstanding (not closed) journey acct. is the outbound to Mexico.
 - Dale Harmelink, as chairman of the board's sub-committee regarding possible club uses of an excess \$10,000 in our general checking acct., submitted the subcommittee report which provided recommendations. (Report attached).
 - As part of formulating a 2018 budget, Dale asked that all standing committees review the list and give him projections of specific uses by those committees.
 - Dale also recommended that at the end of any given year, club members be reminded that FFGM is a 501 (c) (3) organization and that donations are welcome.
 - **Motion** was made by Doris Mueller, seconded and carried: to accept the treasurer's report.

The President's report took place later in the meeting.

3. Membership – Rosie Haas.
 - Presently, 23 new members since the Kneeland-Walker activity, consisting of 11 singles and 6 families. There are 84 renewals with 19 outstanding Calls will be made to those who have not renewed. The 2018 membership directory will be ready for distribution in late April. It's undecided whether the directory will include photos of individual members.
4. 2018 Journey report –
 - Jan. 18-Feb. 1 **Mexico** Donna Baldwin-Haut. All ambassadors enjoyed the outbound journey to Tuxtla Gutierrez & Mexico City. The host club members: very fun & welcoming. The days: culturally diverse & interesting.
 - There was a brief discussion about the board's approach for handling difficult ambassadors or those who aren't physically ready for the rigors of the daily activities. Calling references from previous journeys is helpful.
 - April 16-20 **Dayton (outbound)** At least four members are going to the pre-conference homestays. They will go on to the **Super-Regional conference** in the **Cincinnati** area April 20-22.
 - July 18-24 **Clearwater, FL** (inbound). A committee including some new FFGM members is planning the journey. Co-HCs: Ann Line & Cris Reischl.
 - September 4-11 **Alajuela, Costa Rica** (inbound). Co-HCs: Rosie Haas & Nancy Rubly. Dale reminded us of a FF **boomerang** that FFGM has and that is being passed from club to club. It can to be passed to the Costa Rican club.
 - Nov. 8-15 **Santa Barbara** (outbound). Co-HCs: Dorothy Kelley & Sara Harmelink.
 - Oct. 20-24 **Open World**, Theme: Economic Development. HC: Mary Hauser.
5. 2019 Journey Schedule:
 - TBD **Santa Barbara** (inbound).
 - TBD **Montreal, Canada** (outbound) request for mutual match. Awaiting word.
 - TBD **Awaiting our match from FFI** (inbound).

- Mid-July 2019 **Japanese (ESL)** with Northern Illinois club. Facilitator, Dave Kalan, CO-HC , Gary Drescher. Need another Co-HC.
6. Activities – Ann Line & Mary Hauser.
 - **Feb. 7-** Hmong cultural event cancelled because of low number of participants
 - **March 1- Book Club**
 - **April 29 12 NOON-** Spring Gathering: Club lunch at the Clarke House in Waukesha.
 - **Sept. 22** Cultural event at a Lao church in Brookfield.
 7. Fundraising Donna Balwin-Haut. No report.
 8. Community Outreach Sue Pack. No report.
 9. Vice President Ann Line. No report.
 10. Communications/Website/Newsletter Doris Mueller.
 - Doris explained converting old PDF files to Word was not workable without special software. **Motion** was made by Donna Baldwin-Haut, seconded and carried: to approve \$60 to \$100 for the purchase of software to convert pdf to Word.
 - Doris would like our members to write “Telling Our Stories” for our newsletter and someone to be in charge of Social media. She will include a request in the next newsletter.
 - In past years, we have either donated \$100 to St. Matthew’s Church for allowing us to meet in the church or we have given \$160 for a small ad in the church bulletin that provided minimal information: the name of Friendship Force and a contact in the church membership who is also a member of FF.
Motion was made by Dale Harmelink, seconded and carried: to donate \$100 to St. Matthew’s Church and to drop the ad.
 - The board would like to have FFGM get involved in Public Relations. The board asked Doris to approach new members, the Vogels, who both worked for newspapers to help in this capacity.
 - The deadline for the next newsletter is February 15th.
 11. President’s Report. Sara Harmelink.
 - There was a brief discussion about setting up a nominating committee far in advance of our next club election. There is the hope that members will be encouraged to go through our leadership training so that accepting a job as a leader or officer will not be so daunting.
 - The leadership committee of David Kalan, Sara Harmelink and Donna Haut will begin meetings to develop leaders as part of our strategic plan.
 12. **Motion** was made by Ann Line: to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and carried.
The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully, Gary Drescher, Secretary Pro Tem