

Minutes of FFGM Board Meeting February 6, 2017

Present: Dee Birschel, Joe Geck, Mary Goeks, Dale Harmelink, Sara Harmelink, Mary Hauser, Dave Kalan, Ann Line, Doris Mueller, Sue Pack.

Excused: Anne Szczygiel, Donna Baldwin- Haut, Rosie Haas, Ed Kelley, Gary Drescher.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Sara Harmelink.

1. Minutes -

Motion was made by Doris Mueller and duly seconded: To accept the minutes from the December 5, 2016 board meeting as emailed. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Treasurer – Dale Harmelink reported.

Cash Accounts: General Checking Account: \$10,120.32. General Restricted Account: \$10,000. Restricted Accounts: \$4,951.47. Total Cash: \$25,071.79.

Operationally: income and expenses. 2016 actual income was \$6,031.29 and actual expenses were \$3,907.48 leaving \$2,123.81 excess income over expenses for 2016.

Membership: 2017 to date, 102 members with 48 singles and 27 families. Eight of these are new members.

Exchange Account balance: Florida Outbound Exchange \$4845.00. Brazil Outbound Exchange \$5250.00. 2017 total exchange account balance is \$12,095.00. After discussion,

Motion was made by Mary Goeks and duly seconded: To accept the Treasurer's report subject to audit. Motion carried unanimously

2017 budget: There was a detailed discussion of the projected 2017 budget. After discussion

Motion was made by Doris Mueller and duly seconded: To move \$750 from the restricted account for Membership Growth to the general account under membership development. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Ann Line and duly seconded: To purchase 12 monthly ads in the St. Matthew's Newsletter for a cost of \$160, in lieu of our annual donation. Motion carried unanimously and a letter will be send to St. Matthew's. Doris Mueller will develop the ad.

Motion was made by Dave Kalan and duly seconded: To make a \$1,000 donation to the FFI Legacy Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Joe Geck and duly seconded: To approve the 2017 budget as discussed. Motion carried unanimously.

3. 2017 Schedule

5th at 5 social gatherings– Dale Harmelink reported.

March 5 – Don Sass at the Packing House on Layton

April 5 – Need a volunteer

May 5 – Cris Reischl

June 5 – Sara and Dale Harmelink – Brazil theme

July 5 – Dee and Don Birschel

August 5 – Joe and Barb Geck

September 5 and beyond – Volunteers needed

Outbound to Clearwater FL, March 1-8, 2017. ED Ann Line reported that 17 ambassadors will be going.

Outbound to Florianapolis, Brazil, April 20 – May 9, 2017. ED's Dale Harmelink and Joe Geck reported that 10 ambassadors have signed up to date. Planning is continuing.

Inbound from Dayton, June 7-12, 2017. Rosie Haas and Ann Line are co- ED's. A maximum of 20 ambassadors can be accommodated.

Prospective Member Event, July 18, 2017, Kneeland Walker House in Wauwatosa. Sara Harmelink reported. Goal is to obtain new members. Each FFGM member is to submit to the membership committee the names of 3 people to receive invitations. The Kneeland Walker venue is extraordinary as it is a beautiful historical Victorian house with

many rooms and a garden. It will be an open house where people can come to learn about Friendship Force and meet enthusiastic members. Invitation, exhibit and ethnic food planning continues.

World Conference in Manchester, England, August 25-28, 2017. Dave Kalan, Gary Drescher, Sara and Dale Harmelink will be attending.

Inbound Global Themed Exchange – The Best of Milwaukee, September 14-21, 2017. Open to Vietnam and the world. Dave Kalan is facilitator and co-ED. Sue Pack is co-ED. A maximum of 20 ambassadors can be accommodated.

4. 2018 Schedule

Inbound English Language with Japan. - Date will be set when we receive our assignments from FFI. Joe Geck may be interested in being ED. Any others interested should contact Sara Harmelink.

Outbound request for Mexico City. We are waiting for assignment from FFI

Waiting for other assignments from FFI

5. Activities – Mary Hauser and Ann Line reported on recent and upcoming events.

Ethnic market tour and lunch. A tour of Pacific Produce followed by a lunch at a Vietnamese restaurant on Jan. 18th went well.

Spring Event, April 1 or 2. Looking into a location for brunch. This will also be our 40th anniversary celebration.

Annual Picnic, July 25, Wirth Park.

Book Club - A book club is being formed to focus on books with various cultural settings. The first meeting will be April 6 at Ann Line's. The book is Stolen Lives: 20 Years in a Desert Jail, by Malika Oufkir. The club will meet every other month.

6. Fund Raising - Donna Baldwin-Haut and Ed Kelley. No report.

7. Membership – Rosie Haas. Sara previously reported on the new member recruitment event.

8. Community Outreach- Sue Pack reported she is looking for volunteer opportunities. There will be an event with Palermo Pizza and the Hunger Task Force April 12.

9. Vice President – Ann Line. No further report.

10. Communications/Website/Newsletter. Doris Mueller. Doris reported that things are going well with the new printer and she is planning to set up an account for the charges.

The deadline for the next newsletter is February 15.

11. President – Sara Harmelink

Financial Audit. Past practice has been to conduct an audit every other year. Ed Kelly will be asked if he is willing to do this again.

Donation to St. Matthews. We will be purchasing ads instead of a donation on a one year trial basis.

By-Laws and Board Manual revisions to further define President, Vice President and Treasurer duties. Discussion tabled until next meeting.

Need to change time for the June 5 meeting to avoid conflict with 5th at 5. We agreed to change the board meeting to June 12, 6:30-8:00 at St Matthews, subject to availability.

Newsletter – Future articles or interviews with new members/board members in each edition or stories of friendship.

Let Doris know if you have any suggestions

Review status of 2016-2018 Strategic Goals. Table discussion until next meeting.

12. Next Board Meeting: **Monday, April 3, 2017** at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa, **6:30 p.m.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Birschel, Secretary