**MINUTES OF FFGM BOARD MEETING, October 4, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Nancy Mitchell, Bob Mitchell, Clarine Furey, Ann Line, Dave Kalan, Rosie Haas, Nancy Rubly, Dorothy Krupa, Mary Hauser, Dorothy Kelley, Ed Kelley, Chris Vogel, Donna Baldwin-Haut; Carole DeRoche

**Guests:** Cindy Hum, Russ Hum

**EXCUSED:** Sue Pack

Co-President Bob Mitchell called the meeting about 6:35.

**MINUTES:** Bob Mitchell

 Chris Vogel motioned to approve the August minutes; Dorothy Krupa seconded; minutes were approved unanimously by hand and voice vote.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Dorothy Krupa

* Dorothy Krupa reported the balances of the general checking account of $7569.01, the Wellington Fund original value of $10,000, and the restricted checking account balance is 6177.47 for a total cash of $23746.49
* Membership invoices have been sent. Reminders will be sent at 20 days and 30 days to those who do not respond with payment.
* D. Krupa will prepare draft budgets and provide to those persons impacted for the December meeting.

**5th at Five:** Group Discussion

* In person meetings have been suspended due to Covid-19.
* We can do Zoom meetings or Hybrid meetings if there are hosts. It would be best if a theme for the Zoom or Hybrid meeting could be planned. We need hosts for both November and December.

**ACTIVITIES:** Ann Line

* The next Book Club meeting with “Bookseller of Kabul” is Nov. 10. Information will be in Newsletter.
* Book Club needs suggestions for 2022 meetings.
* There was an animated discussion of how to proceed with activities due to various Covid-19 concerns. It was stated that Book Club and Trivia night will continue using Zoom and/or Hybrid meetings. Other suggestions included educational programs, demonstrations or activities with a theme for either Zoom or Hybrid activities.
* A. Line and M. Hauser will work through these options and put a plan in place to continue various activities through 2022.

**Journeys-2021**

* Nancy Rubly reported on the Connecticut inbound August 20-27. The balance for the Journey is $980.40. Five (5) persons did not come after having made reservations, due to either illness or Covid concerns. M. Hauser motioned to refund the full amount to the person who was hospitalized and 50% to the remaining 4 persons. D. Krupa seconded. A. Line motioned to amend the first motion to refund half of the journey fee which was $175 to all 5 persons; D. Baldwin-Haupt seconded this motion. The amended motion passed by voice and/or hand vote.

**Journeys-2022**

* Tucson Outbound – Planned for January 31 – February 6, 2022. Cindy Hum, Chris Vogel and Pat Graham are Journey Coordinators. Notice of the Journey will be posted in the Newsletter and R. Haas will email the members.
* Lake Simcoe, Ontario, CA Outbound – Dave Kalan is Journey Coordinator. Dates are tentative and will be determined in 2022. Planning will begin closer to the time of the Journey.
* Western North Carolina Outbound (Asheville) – There are no tentative dates or plans yet. We will accept this Journey if there are no conflicts.
* Santa Barbara is requesting an inbound trip in October, 2022, in coordination with a trip to the Quad Cities. The Board accepted this Journey.
* D. Kalan has contacted FFI to have our club put on the waiting list for an inbound International Journey in 2022.

**Journeys-2023**

* The inbound trip from Toulouse France is still possible in 2023.

**Membership**: Dorothy Kelley

* D. Kelley reported that we have 3 new members and membership is now 108 persons.
* More than 50% of members returned the Questionnaire for members’ interests. Data are being processed and will be available soon.

**Nominations Committee:** Nancy Mitchell, Rosie Haas, and Louise Cieslak

* The slate of officers for 2022 is: Susan Feddersen, Secretary; Dorothy Krupa, Treasurer; and, Ruth Ann Hoppe, Assistant Treasurer. D. Krupa will prepare the job description for Assistant Treasurer.

**FFI Fee Schedule:** Bob Mitchell

* The FFI Membership Dues for 2022 shall be set at $25 USD per annum per member.
* The FFI Membership Dues for 2023 shall be set at $30 USD per annum per member.
* The Journey Fee will change from a flat “per journey” fee to a flat “per night” fee. The fee will be set at $25 USD regardless of accommodation type, ambassadors’ origin or the Journey destination. There is no distinction between international and domestic travel.
* FFI will announce a $45 voluntary donation from all members between now and early 2022 entitled “$45 for 45 years of Friendship Force.”

**Annual Meeting:** Bob Mitchell

* A week-night Zoom meeting will be scheduled in early December.
* The Activities Chairpersons will arrange the meeting.
* Various options were discussed to optimize attendance at the meeting.

**New Program:** Bob Mitchell

* FFI has been contacted about working with a new program (Academic Leadership Experience [ALEX]), for high school students who would be hosted for one week. An active discussion of the issues involving hosting young adults of this age was held. No decision regarding participation was made.

**Correspondence**

* Several recipients of the “Lifetime Certificates” sent thank you letters to various Board Members.
* Stephanie Freier (granddaughter of Don Peters) sent a letter of appreciation to Bob Mitchell for her grandfather’s experiences with FFGM.

**NEWSLETTER:** Chris Vogel and Rosie Haas – **Deadline is October 15, 2021**

**CALENDAR 2021**

  Oct 18 Trivia Night

Nov. 5 5th at 5: Zoom only or Hosts needed for Hybrid meeting

 Nov. 10 Book Club – “The Bookseller of Kabul”

 Dec. 5 5th at 5: Zoom only or Hosts needed for Hybrid meeting

 Dec. TBD Annual Meeting - Zoom

**NEXT Board Meeting:** December 6, 2020, 6:30 via Zoom

**Adjournment:** B. Mitchell closed the meeting at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole DeRoche