

**Friendship Force Lincoln Board Minutes**  
**February 5, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**Walt Library Conference Room, 6701 S 14th**

**Members present:** Arlene Rea, Midge Dublinske, Ann Quinlan, Milt Bayer, Judy Keetle, Gayle Bayer, Maxine Moul, Julie Albrecht, Pat King, Janet Walters, Julie Splichal, Marilyn Watson, Pat Novak, Vickie McDonald, Phyllis Arth

The meeting was called to order by President Arlene Rea at 10:10 am following a group photo for the *Passport* and began with a reading of the Friendship Force Pledge. A quorum was present.

**Minutes: Maxine Moul moved and Julie Albrecht seconded that the minutes of January 8, 2024 be approved as corrected. Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** The club account, income, and balance sheets for January were reviewed and will be filed for audit. The cost of maintaining the website has decreased. The current expense is \$205.00 for three years compared to \$169.98 for 2023.

**Vice President Midge Dublinske presented the proposed budget for 2024 as recommended by the Budget Committee for approval. Motion carried.**

**President and Vice-president Reports – Arlene Rea and Midge Dublinske**

- a. The tentative calendar for 2024 was presented. Changes will be made as needed.
- b. **Judy Keetle moved and Ann Quinlan seconded to approve the Board of Directors and Committees for 2024 as presented. Carried.**
- c. The *Passport* will be published by 2/12. The directory is ready to be distributed electronically.
- d. Midwest Leaders Meeting – It was noted that “Let There Be Peace on Earth” was sung at Rosalynn Carter’s memorial service in honor of the Carters’ support of Friendship Force.
- e. Arlene and Julie Albrecht presented information about Friendship Force at a Kiwanis meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Promotional materials were picked up by those attending.
- f. FF North American Conference will be in Milwaukee, WI from October 7 – 10.
- g. Arlene is maintaining the website for [www.fflincoln.org](http://www.fflincoln.org) after being trained by Jim Ecklund.
- h. Midge Dublinske reviewed the process for signing up for [My.friendshipforce.org](http://My.friendshipforce.org) in order to access FFI information. Members can sign up for notices from FFI.

**Committee Reports**

- a. COIL – Julie Albrecht announced an upcoming exchange from Georgia based on the themes of climate change and women empowerment, August 9 – 17, 2024.
- b. Bylaws – Midge Dublinske and the Bylaws Committee have been working on revisions of Bylaws and Policies. Committee chair, Brian Ridenour and board members Arlene Rea, Judy Keetle and Ann Quinlan are continuing to review the documents. Final revisions will be presented before the annual meeting.
- c. Membership – Marilyn Watson will provide a question for the February breakfast. Milt added that Penny Greer was interested in helping provide questions for discussion. Courtesy chair, Gayle Bayer sent a card to the Ridenour family.

- d. Historian – **Janet Walters moved and Julie Albrecht seconded to accept the 2023 Annual Report as compiled and presented by Phyllis Arth. Carried.**
- e. Journey Resource Coordinator – Pat Novak received the coordinator notebook from Pat King. Requests for 2025 journeys has been submitted to FFI.
  - i. Indonesia Outbound – Maxine Moul reported that the journey will be posted on the FFI website. Initial interest of 10 people has dropped. March 1 is the deadline to sign up.
  - ii. San Diego Inbound – Judy Keetle asked the San Diego club what kinds of activities/interests they would enjoy.
- f. LEO – Bruce and Carlene Keim have set the first LEOs for 2024 (see in calendar).
- g. Publicity/Marketing/Website – Maxine Moul will submit articles to the *Neighborhood Extra* after FFL events. Vickie McDonald is managing the Facebook page.
- h. Service/Diversity Committee – Janet Walters summarized her committee’s meeting with Mahe Naseem. The committee will put together an information packet on things to consider when hosting Muslim guests. Additional plans will be forthcoming.
- i. Social Committee – Julie Splichal reported that nine new members have been invited to a brunch on February 24<sup>th</sup>. A group of board members and committee chairs have been invited to explain various aspects of the FFI program and ways to be involved in FFL.
- j. Ad Hoc Committees
  - i. Audit – Pat Novak and De Tonack will serve on the audit committee.
  - ii. Day trips – Judy Keetle is planning a trip to Winnebago on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in July.
  - iii. Games – The FFL Bingo game from the 2022 Holiday Party was suggested as a possible club activity.
  - iv. Trivia – Several local bars/restaurants have game and trivia nights. Organizing a group to attend was suggested as a way to involve club members.

### **Upcoming Events**

Saturday, February 10 – Breakfast and conversation Stauffer’s Café, 8:30 am  
 Saturday, February 24 – New member reception, 10:30 am McDonald/Harnisch home  
 Monday, March 4 – FFL Board Meeting, 2:00 pm at Walt Library, Midge Dublinske presiding  
 Saturday March 23 – LEO at 11:30 am at Mazatlan Mexican, 211 North 70<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Tuesday, April 16 – LEO at 5:00 pm at Heoya Asian South, 1501 Pine Lake Road  
 June 1 – 14 – Outbound Journey to Indonesia  
 Monday, June 24 – LEO at Shogun Japanese, 3700 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
 August 23 – September 1 – FFI Festival at Sea, Holland America  
 September 30 - October 4 – Inbound Journey from San Diego  
 October 7 – 10, FFI North American Conference, Milwaukee, WI

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ann Quinlan, Secretary