

Friendship Force Lincoln Board Minutes January 8, 2024 – 2:00 p.m. by Zoom

Members present: Arlene Rea, Midge Dublinske, Ann Quinlan, Milt Bayer, Judy Keetle, Gayle Bayer, Maxine Moul, Pat King, Janet Walters, Julie Splichal, JoEllen Polzien

The meeting was called to order by President Arlene Rea at 2:18 p.m. and began with a reading of the Friendship Force Pledge. A quorum was present.

Minutes: Maxine Moul moved and Milt Bayer seconded that the minutes of December 4, 2023 be approved as corrected. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The club account, income and balance sheets for December were reviewed. The financials will be filed for audit. The budget for 2024 is being finalized based on current number of members. A final budget will be presented at the February meeting.

President's Report – Arlene Rea

- a. Arlene thanked Judy Keetle for serving as President for two years and thanked the 2023 Board for their service.
- b. Thirty members responded to the survey, providing ways in which members could give service and be involved in helping with the San Diego Journey.
- c. New member reception: Vickie McDonald and Larry Harnisch have offered to host a reception for new members. Julie Splichal is working to finalize details. Nine new members will be invited to attend on February 20th at 2:00 p.m. Final details at the February meeting.
- d. Website maintenance: Training will be given to anyone interested in helping to maintain the FFL website on January 15th at 2:00 by Zoom.
- e. Bylaws/Policies: Board members were asked to review the policies specific to their board position and email any suggested changes to Arlene. The Bylaws and Policies committee will meet to review necessary Bylaws changes from FFI and update FFL Policies. Janet Walters suggested a need to review the title of the Service/Diversity Committee.
- f. Committees: 2024 Board of Directors, Standing Committees/Teams and Ad Hoc Committees list is attached to these minutes.
- g. *Passport*: Articles for the next *Passport* are due January 25th. JoEllen Polzien requested an article that would ask members if they wish to receive birthday and holiday greetings. Other articles will feature new officers and the board of directors, the Indonesia Journey, and the events calendar.
- h. New board picture will be taken at the February meeting.

Committee Reports

- a. Membership – Marilyn Watson is the new Membership Chair.
- b. Journey Resource Coordinator – Pat Novak is the new Journey Resource Coordinator. The request form for 2025 journeys was discussed. Canada and Mexico were suggested as priority destinations. New members may feel more comfortable with journeys that are somewhat closer to home given the world condition and expense.
 - i. Indonesia Outbound, June 1-14, 2024: Maxine Moul provided updated information on the itinerary. The first two days in Bogar will be at a guest house before transferring to home hosts. Maxine will email

- membership with details. March 1 is the deadline for applying for the journey. Maxine is reaching out to local colleges to see if there are current student from Indonesia who could share about their country.
- ii. San Diego Inbound, September 30 -October 4, 2024: Judy Keetle reported that the San Diego group will be stopping here on their way to the North American Conference in Milwaukee.
 - c. Service/Diversity Committee: Janet Walters and the committee are refining plans to connect with the Muslim community in Lincoln. The committee is seeking ways to help FFL members have an international experience even if they cannot travel.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, January 11 – Bylaws meeting at Arlene’s home

Saturday, January 13 – Breakfast and conversation, Stauffer’s Café, 8:30 am

Monday, January 15 – Zoom meeting with Website Maintenance training, 2 pm

Tuesday, January 23 – Speaker’s Bureau (Arlene) with Kiwanis, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, January 24 – Diversity/Service Committee meets with Mahe Neesam

Thursday, January 25 – Articles & photos due to Arlene Rea for February *Passport*

Monday, February 5 – FFL Board Meeting, Walt Library, 2:00 pm

Saturday, February 10 – Breakfast and conversation Stauffer’s Café, 8:30 am

Tuesday, February 20 – New member reception for invited guests

June 1 – 14 – Outbound Journey to Indonesia

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 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Quinlan, Secretary