

Friendship Force Lincoln Board Minutes
December 2, 2024 – 12:00 p.m.
Home of Jim and Arlene Rea, 6157 Old Farm Court

Members present: Arlene Rea, Ann Quinlan, Milt Bayer, Judy Keetle, Gayle Bayer, Vicki McDonald, Julie Splichal, Marilyn Watson, Bruce Keim, Carlene Keim, Julie Albrecht, Janet Walters, Maxine Moul, JoEllen Polzein, Pat Novak

Members excused: Midge Dublinske, Phyllis Arth

The meeting was called to order at 1:13 p.m. by president Arlene Rea following the holiday luncheon that began with a reading of the Friendship Force Pledge. A quorum was present.

Minutes: Milt Bayer moved and Julie Splichal seconded to accept the minutes of November 4, 2024, as distributed. Motion carried.

President's Report: Arlene Rea reported on the Midwest Leaders' meeting with new Midwest Field Rep Connie Williams of Cedar Rapids, IA.

Committees and boards for next year are being finalized. Membership committee and games/trivia night leadership is needed.

Vice-president's Report: Discussion centered on how to publicize the policies and application process for grants and scholarships. Janet Walters suggested authorizing the marketing and scholarship committees to publicize the grants and scholarships with an e-blast to members.

Maxine Moul moved and Julie Albrecht seconded to approve *Addenda 3: Diversity and Community Service Project Grant* as amended. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Milt Bayer presented the November Monthly Cash Flow, Balance Sheet and Income Statement. The reports will be filed for audit. It was suggested that Milt send dues reminders every Tuesday in December.

Committee Reports

- a. **Journey Resource Coordinator** – Pat Novak -- Inbound hosting form for 2026 is due December 6. Continued discussion on April, May and June being the best months for hosting and the possibility of a Cranes theme journey being the most enticing.
- b. **Indonesia Journey Coordinator** –Maxine Moul – Twelve people have indicated an interest. Fifteen is the maximum number the Indonesian club can host.
- c. **Open World/COIL** – Julie Albrecht and Judy Keetle presented the final report on the Mongolia delegation. They stated that the facilitator was a true leader and the group was interested in starting a FF club in Mongolia. Expense account balance following costs of hosting = \$1202.24
- d. **Open World Anniversary** –Vicki McDonald reported on the experience of being asked to speak on the experience of hosting at the celebration in Washington, D.C.
- e. **Membership** – Marilyn Watson – 30 members have renewed for 2025
 - i. **Courtesy:** Gayle Bayer sent sympathy card for Mary Lou Becker
 - ii. **Directory:** No changes

- iii. Online Greetings:** JoEllen Polzein continues to send greetings to members who request this opportunity for a connection with the club.
- f. **Publicity** – Maxine Moul reported that getting information in the Neighborhood Extra has been a challenge because of change of leadership at Lee Enterprises. Using social media and connecting with the International Visitors bureau are possibilities.
 - g. **Social** – Julie Splichal has 26 reservations for the holiday lights bus tour on December 8. The bus can hold 35.
 - h. **Passport** – Arlene Rea thanked all who contributed to the newsletter and Maxine for formatting it. The *Passport* is distributed to all members via email and mailed to two members.
 - i. **Breakfast and Conversation** – Marilyn Watson. Next breakfast is December 14, 2024.
 - j. **Historian** –Year-end reports are due to Phyllis Arth. Send electronically.
 - k. **Scholarship** – Discussion and voting under Vice-president’s report (above).
 - l. **Diversity/Community Service (DCSC)** –Janet Walters visited the ECHO Collective to research future connections and possible tour with the organization that empowers women entrepreneurs.
 - m. **Facebook and Website** – No report
 - n. **LEO** – Bruce Keim -- The next LEO will be in March, 2025.
 - o. **Ad Hoc Day Trips** – Judy Keetle -- Suggestions for possible future trips included the Mennonite community in Henderson, NE.
 - p. **Announcements**

December 8 – FFL Holiday Party, Elite Party Bus, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Seacrest Field, 72nd and A
Reservations needed – contact Julie Splichal.

December 14 – Breakfast and Conversation, 8:30 a.m. Stauffer’s Café and Pie Shoppe,
5600 S 48th Street

December 31 – 2025 FFL dues to Milt Bayer

January 6, 2025 – FFL Board Meeting, 2:00 p.m. Walt Library Conference Room

January 11 – Breakfast and Conversation, 8:30 a.m. Stauffer’s Café and Pie Shoppe,
5600 S 48th

September 23 – 30, 2025 – Columbia Cascade Inbound Journey

TBA – Florida Outbound

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Quinlan, Secretary