

**Friendship Force Lincoln Board Minutes**  
**November 4, 2024 – 2:00 p.m.**  
**Walt Library Conference Room, 6701 S 14<sup>th</sup> Street**

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

**Members excused:** Midge Dublinske, Phyllis Arth, Carlene Keim, Pat Novak

**Members absent:** JoEllen Polzein

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by president Arlene Rea and began with a reading of the Friendship Force Pledge. A quorum was present.

**Minutes: Milt Bayer moved and Janet Walters seconded to accept the minutes of October 7, 2024, as distributed. Motion carried.**

**President's Report:** Arlene and Jim Rea invited board members to celebrate the holidays at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting at noon at their home. Members signed up to bring a main dish, salad or dessert to the potluck.

COIL (Congressional Office for International Leadership) is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on December 3<sup>rd</sup> with a gala in Washington, D.C. Vicki McDonald and Larry Harnisch have been invited as special guests to speak about their experiences in hosting and traveling. One of the COIL delegates from Georgia who visited Lincoln will also attend.

Arlene reviewed the committee chairs list for 2025, still needs a Membership chair.

**Vice-president's Report:** Janet Walters' committee reviewed Addenda 3: Diversity and Community Service Project Grant documents. **Janet Walters moved and Vicki McDonald seconded to approve the documents. Following feedback and discussion on how to market the grant, final approval was postponed until clarification of the grant details and processes is finalized.**

Arlene Rea presented Addenda 5: FFL Dues Grant. One change in the review process was recommended. **Ann Quinlan moved and Judy Keetle seconded to approve Addenda 5 as amended to replace "The Membership Chair and two other people" with "The Scholarship Committee." Carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Milt Bayer presented the October Monthly Cash Flow, Balance Sheet and Income Statement. The reports will be filed for audit.

### **Committee Reports**

- a. **Journey Resource Coordinator** – Inbound hosting form for 2026 is due December 6, 2024. Consensus was that a theme journey would be the best option: Suggested themes: The Best of Nebraska, Hidden Gems, Pioneer Nebraska, Crane Journey, Women in Sports. Send ideas to Arlene.  
Indonesia Journey packets are available from Maxine Moul. Maximum of 15 ambassadors. Individuals will make their own hotel and flight arrangements.

- b. **Open World/COIL** – Julie Albrecht and Judy Keetle reviewed the itinerary for the Mongolian delegation hosted by FFL from November 8 – 16.
- c. **Membership** – No report
  - i. **Courtesy:** No report
  - ii. **Directory:** No changes
  - iii. **Online Greetings:** No report
- d. **Publicity** – Maxine will send information about the Mongolian program.
- e. **Social** – Julie Splichal asked for volunteers to help set up for the dinner for the COIL guests. Set-up begins at 4:45, dinner and program from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Antelope Park Enclosed Shelter. A projector, sound system and Wifi hot spot may be needed. Julie will check with the COIL facilitator.
- f. **Passport** – November 15 is the deadline for submitting articles to Arlene.
- g. **Breakfast and Conversation** – Marilyn Watson. Next breakfast is November 9, 2024.
- h. **Historian** – Year-end reports are due to Phyllis Arth at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> board meeting.
- i. **Scholarship** – Arlene will send out the Policies and have members review them for further discussion at the December meeting. The Policies can be amended whenever the board wishes to do so.
- j. **Diversity/Community Service (DCSC)** – Four members attended the memorial for Mahe Naseem on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Various committee members have been involved in planning for the upcoming COIL visitors. Janet is planning to visit the ECHO Collective in November.
- k. **Facebook and Website** – No report
- l. **LEO** – Bruce Keim reported that 17 members and one guest attended the LEO at Mr. Hui's 2 on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The next LEO will be in March, 2025.
- m. **Ad Hoc Day Trips** – Seven people participated in the day trip to Brownville on October 11<sup>th</sup>. A tour of Main Street, lunch at the Lyceum and visits to the Folk Art Museum and Whiskey Run Creek Winery and Distillery were highlights.

## **Announcements**

November 15 – Articles due to Arlene for *Passport*

November 8 -16 – COIL (Open World) Mongolia to Lincoln

November 9 – Breakfast & Conversation, 8:30 a.m., Stauffer's Café, 5600 S 48<sup>th</sup>

November 10 – Mongolian Party, 5:30 p.m., Antelope Park Enclosed Shelter

December 2 – FFL Board Meeting and Potluck, 12:00 noon, Arlene and Jim's home,  
6157 Old Farm Ct.

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

December 14 – Breakfast and Conversation, 8:30 a.m. Stauffer's Café and Pie Shoppe,  
5600 S 48<sup>th</sup> Street

September 23 – 30, 2025 – Columbia Cascade Inbound Journey

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Quinlan, Secretary

