

**Friendship Force Lincoln Board Minutes**  
**October 6, 2025**  
**Walt Library Conference Room, 2:00 p.m.**

**Members present:** Arlene Rea, Ann Quinlan, Janet Walters, Bruce Keim, Vickie McDonald, Milt Bayer, Gayle Bayer, Maxine Moul, Pat Novak, Julie Albrecht

**Members excused:** Midge Dublinske, Judy Keetle Marilyn Watson, Phyllis Arth,

**Guest:** Carol Johnstone-Hornig

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President Arlene Rea following the reading of the Friendship Force Pledge. A quorum was present.

**Minutes: Judy Keetle moved and Janet Walters seconded to accept the minutes of September 8, 2025. Motion carried.**

**Julie Albrecht moved and Vickie McDonald seconded to accept the minutes of the special meeting on September 21, 2025. Motion carried.**

**Bruce Keim moved and Julie Albrecht seconded to accept the minutes of the annual meeting on September 21, 2025. Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** The Monthly Cash Flow, Balance Sheet and Income Statements submitted by Milt Bayer by e-mail will be filed for audit. He noted that \$50.00 was given to each of three organizations that the Columbia Cascades ambassadors visited: The Otoe County Museum, the Orphan Train and Unadilla Library

**Pat Novak moved and Ann Quinlan seconded that FFL pins be given to inbound ambassadors and COIL delegates. Motion carried.**

**Ann Quinlan moved and Pat Novak seconded that for outbound journeys ambassadors pay for FFL pins to give to their hosts. Motion carried.**

**President's Report:** Arlene Rea thanked Pat Novak for coordinating the Columbia Cascades exchange.

**Vice-president's Report:** Midge Dublinske attended the Regional Leaders meeting. There is still no determination on dues for 2026.

**Julie Albrecht moved and Vickie McDonald seconded that FFL will pay \$30.00 dues to FFL for 2026. Motion carried.** *(Note: Because FFL has not notified clubs of a dues increase and dues are already being collected, we may have to pay International dues in arrears in 2027.)*

### **Committee Reports**

- a. **Membership** –Open discussion on possibilities for outreach into the community to grow membership, updating the FFL pamphlet, and promoting a speaker's bureau.
  - i. **On-line greetings** – JoEllen Polzien will not do greetings in 2026
  - ii. **Courtesy** – No report
  - iii. **Website** – Arlene and Midge continue to update the website.
- b. **Publicity** – Maxine has been successful in getting stories/photos to the *Journal Star*.
- c. **Social** – No report
- d. **Passport** – Articles and photos due October 10<sup>th</sup> for the November *Passport*:

- e. **Breakfast and Conversation** – Leslie Ryan will be substituting for Marilyn Watson at the Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> breakfast.
- f. **Historian** – No report
- g. **Scholarship** – Report under New Business
- h. **Diversity and Community Service** –Janet Walters reported that the first gathering of Friends of Friendship Force was rescheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup>. Dessert for the annual meeting was from the business of a member of the ECCO Collective. The DCSC committee had highlighted this community at an FFL board meeting.
- i. **Facebook and Website** – No report
- j. **LEO** – Bruce Keim invited members to the next LEO at Tandoor Indian Cuisine in Williamsburg on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 p.m.
- k. **Journey Resource Coordinator** – Pat Novak
  - i. Columbia Cascade Inbound Journey -- positive responses from the participants.
  - ii. Sarasota Outbound Journey – participants may want to coordinate transportation to Omaha for their flights.
  - iii. 2026 Journeys: Need Journey Coordinator for Niagara/Canada, June 16-23, 2026. Six places are available. Will be combined with the Cheyenne, WY club.
  - iv. Midge Dublinske has been in contact with the Cedar Rapids, IA club to coordinate a Cranes Journey, March 9-13, 2026. It will involve two hotel stays in Grand Island. Details to come.
- l. **Open World/COIL** – Julie Albrecht reported the next COIL will be from Hungary on February 18-26, 2026.

### **New Business**

**Milt Bayer moved on behalf of the Scholarship Committee to approve scholarship credits for FFL 2026 dues for the following members: \$50 each for Vicki McDonald, Barbara Ridder, Maxine Moul, Pat Novak, Julie Albrecht, and Judy Keetle; \$25 for Bruce Keim; \$20 for Arlene Rea; \$10 for Lois Katt. Motion carried.**

### **Announcements**

October 11 –Breakfast and Conversation at Stauffer’s, 8:30 a.m. Bring a guest.  
 October 6 – 13 – FFI Festival on the Mekong Journey  
 November 4-9 – Sarasota, Florida Outbound Journey  
 November 8 – Breakfast and Conversation at Stauffer’s, 8:30 a.m. Bring a guest.  
 November 10 – FFL Board Meeting, Walt Library, 2-4 p.m.  
 December 1 – FFL Board Meeting, tentatively at Walt Library, 2-4 p.m.  
 December 6 – Christmas party at the International Quilt Museum 2– 4 p.m.  
 December 13 – Breakfast and Conversation at Stauffer’s, 8:30 a.m. Bring a guest.  
 April 24-27, 2026 – North American Conference, Memphis, TN

Arlene Rea adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ann Quinlan, Secretary

