

Friendship Force Meeting, April 5, 2019

Estero Library

I want to give special thanks to Sue L. for coming in early and setting up the equipment for us. Without her help we wouldn't have had much of a meeting. Thank you again.

The meeting was opened by Secretary Linda Supakoff

Guests : Nancy, Therez .. no last names given.

Treasurer's Report : None.

Social Committee : Joanne McPeek . Joanne had a sign up sheet for the show "Million Dollar Quartet . performances on 4/12 and 4/24.

Exchanges : Inbound : Australia in 2019 , Joanne Collins gave a recap on their visit.

A group from Russia will be coming in.

We need a host coordinator.

Outbound : Indonesia , April 2019, Caarole Nasby and Susan Baudray.

Our club is there now, along with Sarasota.

2019 Linda Supakoff

Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 1 - 8,

were told that we can make

No new information from Club. We

accommodate us.

our own plans for arrival and they will

Newsletter : No report

Website : No report

Publicity : No report.

Facebook : No report.

Out and About : No report

Nominating Committee : Priscilla McShane . Still need a nominee for president.

New Business : Linda Supakoff presented the club with two flags given to us by the

Wirarapa club in New Zealand, an American and a Floridian flag.

Program : Joanne McPeek gave a presentation on her and her son John's trip to Scotland.

Lunch : County Creek Club - 13 people attended .

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Supakoff, Secretary

March 18, 2019

### **Board Meeting**

Jack, Jo Cooley, Beverly Harmon, and Michelle Kemps present. (Beverly's home)

It occurred to us that Linda was missing at the last Board meeting (January 23 - Michelle's Home) and therefore there were No Minutes. This document will cover all topics discussed at both meetings.

#### 1. Membership Dues

FFI takes \$15 / member....we are paying \$35 member.....leaves us \$20 /member

FFI just increased to \$20 / member.....we need to charge \$40 / member ....leaves us \$20 / member

2) FFI has increased their Outbound Fee to \$170 / week to pay their staff.

3) We have been charging \$150 for Inbound Journeys. It is too difficult to keep within that budget. Michelle did a survey of nearby clubs. Everyone is charging more. We, the board, propose raising the Inbound fee to \$175.

4) We feel the duties of the membership person needs to take care of the Directory as of next year.

5) We feel the JC, AC and Membership person is responsible for collecting necessary money. When appropriate total and give to treasurer.

6) The duties of the Treasurer are to store the monthly statements from the bank and write all necessary checks. This transaction will take place by the next board election.

7) Recites for purchase are Necessary for a refund.

8) Nominating Committee schedule. Spring and Summer they are to fill all positions. Sept meeting start announcing those that have accepted. October is LAST month do fill all necessary positions. November they are announced. November there will be a Mentor meeting with all new positions being mentored by an experienced member. December meeting they all will be inducted. We want to add a slot for a volunteer for the Ice Cream Social. Will check on progress at the end of April. If they need help we will try to find someone who has done it before to coach them.

9) Beverly and Ginny will compile a list of names, addresses, phone numbers, and contact person if applicable of 1) all locations we've used meetings and 2) places for Lunch Please feel free to write a comment as 'Yes place worked out', 'No people did not like etc etc' This will be passed to the new Vice Presidents.

10) There was much discussion about the Australia Inbound Journey. We all read the surveys. We all agreed it was a total success and Participation was nearly 100%. There were two issues we need to address. 1) We need to remind members that Politics and Religion should really not be a topic to discuss. 2) When we see a person with dietary need is coming we need to contact them and have they be specific as to their needs. It is our responsibility to ask, it is their responsibility to give us detailed information.

We were extremely pleased with the many small dinners. Doing this there is no need to pay the host \$50....which without fundraisers is hard to justify.

11) Discussed June Lunch....but got it mixed up with the Ice Cream Social. All has been squared away.

12) Online banking was discussed. We feel it is the way of the future. The Sun Trust bank has given us their rates. We need to compare them with other banks. We need a Webmaster to work with us. Richard is leaving the position after 6 years. We have agreed to try and research during the hot quiet months of the summer. If we decide to do it, we would implement it in the fall and have it up and running for the upcoming year's membership dues in November. This way we can make sure it is ready for the next board. Sarasota is working with Fifth Third Bank , so we will ask them for some advice.

Michelle has contacted Allison Lindsey from FFI and asked to have information on Online Banking.

13) We talked about Fundraisers. We all agree we don't like them. However it may come down to we NEED someday to replenish our yearly costs.....Web page, Newsletter, Membership to FFI, misc things like Ice Cream Social. Michelle did a survey of nearby clubs. Many have simple Fundraisers like, having a Wine tasting, Cocktail Hour, then all go to restaurant, Lunch at home after meeting, going to movies etc. For each of these events they charge \$5 from each participating member. It might be possible to tack it onto the Out and About program? Another means of getting money into the primary account is making the Journey deposit non refundable. Could be 100% non refundable or 50% non refundable. When people sign up to do something (attend the Farewell dinner) and decide NOT to go.....they can send someone in their place or forfeit the money, No Refunds.

Another club has a system whereby if you can not participate in an incoming journey, you may have to option to donate \$25 towards a luncheon for the ambassadors. A thank you card is drawn up to let the ambassadors know who is paying. The AC usually will take them someplace where the meal is just under that amount and the excess money goes into the Primary Account.

14) An oversight !!! As I was scooping up the board meeting paperwork and I saw Jack's financial paper. Jack spent much time reviewing the Online Banking. It is with his compilation that we confirmed we need to interview other banks come summer time.

Minutes submitted by Michelle Kemps  
March 18, 2019

Friendship Force Meeting, February 1, 2019

Punta Gorda Public Safety Facility

The meeting was opened by President Michelle Kemps

Friendship Force Pledge : We begin each meeting with the Friendship Force Pledge

Guests : Mary Lou Crowder, Darlene Rosen, Linda Mitchell, Rich and Jane Smelsky

Treasurer's Report : General Account \$3098

Inbound Account \$2912

Outbound Account \$2415

Social Committee : Beverly Harmon recommende movies in Bonita Springs theater;

Bohemian Rhapsody and Green Book . Also free ice cream !!

Exchanges : Inbound : Australia in 2019 , with Joanne Collins And Bev Harmon

Outbound : Indonesia , April 2019, Caarole Nasby and Susan Baudray

Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 1 - 8,  
2019 Linda Supakoff

Sign up sheets for pre and post trips

were presented.

Global : Romania Habitat for Humanity build

Dues : Dues are due Jan 1, \$35, Mail to Jack Cooley

Newsletter : Make sure we have your email address

Website : Richard Collins presented a demonstration on navigating through our website.

Publicity : There will be a local reporter at the Australians' welcome dinner.

Facebook : Susan Beaudry requested that we keep posting our travel pictures.

Out and About : Carole Berry and Bev Harmon - Blue Grass event on 2/24 and 3/24

Nominating Committee : Priscilla, Kathy, Rich Copeland volunteered to serve.

New Business : New policy. The JC or AC will now be responsible for their checks,  
to take pressure off the treasurer.

Theresa from Africa sent presents to our members, through Sue Linehan.

Program : Ginny Dooley and Linda Supakoff gave a presentation on their trip to Indonesia

Lunch : Pho Saigon in Punta Gorda - 28 people attended - a new record !

Next meeting : March 1st at the Punta Gorda Fire Station at 10 AM

Next Program : Australia

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Supakoff, Secretary

Friendship Force Meeting, January 4, 2019

South Country Regional Library

The meeting was opened by President Michelle Kemps

Friendship Force Pledge : We begin each meeting with the Friendship Force Pledge

Treasurer's Report : General Account \$3525.09

Inbound Account \$3335.00

Outbound Account \$6510.00

Social Committee : Maureen Butt. Planning a mural tour in Punta Gorda, followed by a pot luck lunch.

Exchanges : Inbound : Australia in 2019 , with Joanne Collins And Bev Harmon

Outbound : Indonesia , April 2019, Caarole Nasby and Susan Baudray

Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 1 - 8, 2019 Lovey and Linda

Inbound Australia - Joanne Collins passed out a sign up sheet for activities here,

Outbound - Indonesia Carole Nasby is planing an information meeting on Jan. 23.

Also discussed pre trips to Singapore and Bali and a post

trip to Caambodia.

Business : Dues are due Jan 1, \$35, Mail to Jack Cooley

Don't know what our outbound for next year is yet.

F.F.I. has invited us to participate in an experimental group combining F. F. and

Habitat for Humanity, 3 day build and 4 day cultural tour, on

Aug. 30 - Sept 7, for \$1600 plus air fare.

Program : Marcia Ellis gave a presentation on Medicine Hat.

Next meeting : Feb. 1st at Punta Gorda Police Dept Bldg.

Next Program : Java and Bali, by Giny Dooley and Linda Supakoff

Lunch : Country Creek Restaurant

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Supakoff, Secretary