

Friendship Force of Southwest Florida

Meeting Minutes for Jan. 7, 2022

Meeting was located at the pavilion at Gilcrest Park. A sandwich lunch was provided by FFSWFL.

23 members and 2 guests in attendance

1. Maureen opened the meeting with the FFI pledge.
2. Plans are proceeding for our next inbound journey Feb 22-27. We are hosting members of FF of Greater Detroit and several other clubs of the Midwestern Region. Judy Carson is the JC.
3. Our next journey is outbound to Sacramento June 1-7. Joanne Collins is the JC.
4. In July our club international outbound journey is to FF of Edmonton and FF of Medicine Hat, Canada. Maureen Butt is JC and Carol Nasby is her assistant. They are planning a pre-trip Vancouver to Edmonton train adventure through the Rocky Mountains. It begins on June 30, 7 days/6 nights, and costs approximately \$3,500 USD. If interested in taking this pre-trip contact Carol Nasby.
5. Maureen reminded us that every member needs to sign up with myffi.org. If anyone needs assistance with this they can contact any of the board members.
6. Bidding with FFI for 2023 will start soon. We will ask for one international and one domestic journey.
7. Luvvy Kovacik is organizing a Game Day Social on Saturday, Jan. 22. Bring snacks. We will need to RSVP if planning to attend. Watch for an email.
8. There will be a spring brunch in March. Watch the newsletter for details.
9. Ginny Dooley won 2 tickets donated by Joanne MacPeak to a production at the Florida Repertory Theater where Joanne volunteers..
10. Our next meeting will be Friday, Feb. 4 at Cape Coral Library at 10am. Lunch afterwards at the Rumrunners.

Members present:

Michelle Kemps

Sonja Higgins, Guest

Bill Kemps, Guest

Beverly Haggerty

Virginia Dooley

Linda Supakoff

Richard Copeland

Carol & Chris Nasby

Phyllis Steel

Barbara Robinson

Marge Kang

Hugh & Priscilla McShane

Jack & Jo Cooley

Cindy & Dwight Haldermon

Maureen & Hank Butt

Dennis & Norma Meier

Marcia Ellis

Judy Carson

Terese Libby

Minutes from General Meeting Feb 4, 2022

FFSWFL Meeting

2/4/2022

Present: Carol & Chris Nasby, Sue & Rob Linehan, Joanne and Richard Collins, Barbara Robinson, Maureen and Hank Butt, Luvvy Kovacek, Joanne MacPeck, Marcia Ellis, Roy Pearson, Jack & Jo Cooley, Michelle Kemps, Terese Libby, Judy Carson

Club Officers:

President: Maureen Butt

Vice President: Carol Nasby

Treasurer: Richard Collins

Secretary: Marcia Ellis

1. Maureen Butt stated it is time to fill out the FFI journey selection form. Discussion followed about different locations people would like to visit. It was the general consensus that we should journey to places in the USA and Europe. Richard suggested the board would send out an email to all members to ask for their input. A summary of responses will be discussed at our next meeting.
2. Judy Carson reviewed the activities of the upcoming inbound journey with FF Detroit. She asked people to sign up for the activities they plan to attend. Marcia Ellis will send everyone in the club the schedule and host/guest list as well as dinner assignments via email today. Marcia will make booklets and Carol Nasby will make up the gift bags.
3. Joanne Collins discussed our journey to FF Sacramento June 1-7. Cost is \$150. There are 14 members currently enrolled. Sign up for this journey is still open.
4. Maureen and Carol discussed the outbound journey to Canada in July. Pre-trip departs June 30 for Vancouver and arrives in Edmonton July 6. FF Edmonton hosts July 6-12. Medicine Hat hosts July 12-18. There are 11 members signed up for the journey. Joanne Collins advised us of volatile air fares. Anyone wishing to join this journey should contact Carol Nasby.
5. Richard and Joanne Collins gave a lively talk about their cruising experience in Dec & Jan in the Covid time.
6. Next meeting March 4 will be at Linda Supakoff's house. It will be a pot luck with an international theme. Please wear international clothing!
7. Meeting adjourned.

FFSWFL

Board Meeting

Feb 18, 2022

Present: Carol Nasby, Maureen Butt, Richard Collins, Linda Supakoff, Marcia Ellis

1. Maureen requested that Carol send an application to Jackie Engel who would like to rejoin.
2. Richard gave the treasurer's report. Regular members include 18 single and 8 couples. We have 7 associate members.
3. Richard asked for a motion to add an additional signer on our checks as a safety measure. Motion was carried to add Linda Supakoff, board member, as the additional signer.
4. Maureen discussed the email going out to members about our upcoming journey. She made the motion that the cost of the welcome party and farewell party should be covered by the club treasury from the general fund for FFSWFL members. The motion carried.
5. There was discussion about the journey budget.
6. Programming:

March 4-going to Linda's at 11am, dressing up in favorite costume from another country. Carol will organize the potluck.

April 3- meeting at Lake Fairways, from 2-5pm. Potluck. Will ask Michelle & Ginney to present their trip to Dubai.

May 6 – meet for lunch in Estero. Location TBA

Sept 9 – Linda Supakoff will host an ice cream social

Oct 7 – presentation on Sacramento journey, Ft. Myer library, 10:30am

Oct 30 – Halloween party at Linda Supakoff's, 6pm

Nov 18 – presentation on Canada journey by Maureen

Dec 14 – Christmas party, location TBA

Meeting adjourned 11:45.

Feb 21, 2022 Addendum to Minutes

April Spring Pot Luck

Program: Jack Cooley will organize an

International trivia game that will involve our members. Prizes for winners.

FF SWFL Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2022

International Potluck at Linda Supakoff's home

There were 27 people attending. Maureen Butt gave a welcome.

Reading of FF pledge and singing of Let There Be Peace On Earth followed.

Journeys:

June, Sacramento: Sign up with Joanne Collins

July: Alberta, Canada with two homestays. Journey Coordinators are Carol Nasby & Maureen Butt. There is an add-on train trip pre-journey.

Aug: Brazil. Journey Coordinator is Vicki Vance from FFI.

Several members are going to Germany (4 with NE Ohio to Lubeck).

A gift of \$50 from FF Detroit will be given to the Peace River Wildlife Center.

There was a discussion of benefits of FFI and club membership for guests.

New members introduced themselves:

Kit and Deb Ferguson, Minnesota snowbirds

Meridy Moore, Wisconsin educator, vocal and educational music

After lunch of international foods there was “show and tell” of clothing worn.

Sue Linehan discussed assistance to 7 Afganistan refugees. Anyone wishing to help can contact her.

Carol Nasby discussed Ukraine refugee relief.

Next meeting will be March 16 at Myakka State Park. We will join the Sarasota club there.

Marcia Ellis

Secretary

Friendship Force of Southwest Florida

Membership Meeting

April 3, 2022

Present: Judy Carson, Roy Pearson, Jack & Jo Cooley, Deb Ferguson, Kit Thanil, Joanne MacPeck, Joanne and Richard Collins, Linda Supakoff, Richard Copeland, Maureen & Hank Butt, Connie Anderson, Hugh & Priscilla McShane, Betty Botsaris, Cherryle Phelps, Lou Rizk, Carol & Chris Nasby, Marcia Ellis

After a wonderful potluck Maureen Butt began the business meeting.

1. The season is winding down. Snowbirds are heading to their summer homes.
2. Joanne Collins, journey coordinator for our Sacramento journey, gave an update. The journey dates are June 1-8. Nine members of our club are going along with seven members of various other clubs.
3. In July is our journey to Alberta Canada, visiting two clubs: Medicine Hat and Edmonton. Pre-trip is a train ride on the Rocky Mountaineer.
4. Four members of our club are going on a journey with Northeast Ohio club to Germany.
5. May 7 a potluck is scheduled at Luvvy's with games and swimming.

6. May 21 all Florida clubs are invited to a meeting in Clearwater.
7. Jack Cooley read an email he received from an old sailing friend, Mary from Camryka who lives on Bocas del Toro, Panama. Then Jack and Jo presided over a trivia game.

M. Ellis, Secretary

FFSWFL Board Meeting Minutes Via Zoom

Sept 7, 2022

Present: Linda Supakoff, Maureen Butt, Richard Collins, Carol Nasby, Marcia Ellis

1. Maureen and Carol have reached out to two past presidents, Joanne Collins and Sue Linehan, to ask for help with a nominating committee for filling three upcoming offices for FFSWFL. These positions would be a co-president, preferably a club member who lives full-time in Florida, to assist Carol who will be stepping up to the president January 1, 2023. The two other positions that need to be filled will be vice president of the club and membership chairperson. Both Sue and Joanne responded immediately and affirmed they would make phone calls to actively recruit members who would be willing to volunteer for these 3 positions.
2. Our club calendar has the date of Oct 7 as a meeting. We decided that since several members will not be back in Florida and others are going on the upcoming Turkey journey that we would change the meeting to a luncheon venue. There is an ice cream social occurring this week, Sept 9, and Joanne and Linda will ask those who would be attending if they would like to do a club lunch on Oct 7. Details TBA.
3. Maureen suggested that we move forward to "grow our club membership" by asking our members to bring a friend to our January 2023 (or before) meeting where we would have a club sponsored informal outdoor lunch at Gilchrist Park and also to encourage word of mouth invites to those who may be interested in becoming a FFI member.
4. Linda Supakoff has volunteered to be the Australia journey coordinator for fall of 2023. The two clubs that FFI has assigned for our club outbound international exchange are Blue Mountain club and Gold Coast club. Both clubs are in contact with Linda and a date for this journey has not been determined yet. Our request is to visit both clubs between Sept 15 and Nov 15 with a pre or post add-on sightseeing tour.

5. The Christmas party will be held on Dec 14 at Luvvy's with Judy's place as a back-up.

Minutes submitted by Maureen and Marci

The FFSWFL November meeting was held on November 19 2022 at 10:30 AM in Ft. Myers, Florida.

The meeting was well attended at the Colonial Country Club private meeting room by 24 members.

Following the Friendship Force Pledge and welcome, a presentation was given by Joanne and Richard Collins for the June 2022 outbound domestic journey from our club to Sacramento, California. Since there were several new members attending, both Richard and Joanne further explained how a club Journey works and how members will directly benefit from interacting with other club members through sharing, friendship, geographic, location, and lifestyle. Questions by new members were answered and all were encouraged to see what Friendship Force clubs have openings that can be filled by other clubs. All members were reminded that a member in good standing can apply to any club that would have open spots available for their planned Journey .

Our own club planned Journey's were reviewed. For our club 2023 outbound international Journey to Australia, we still have no date, but our JC Linda Supakoff is working with both Gold Coast and BlueMountain clubs to set a date. Sue Linehan, JC, discussed the March 15-22 2023, Incoming journey from northern Colorado club and the tentative itinerary and club fee was reviewed. Home hosting will be paired with incoming Ambassadors after the holidays.

Maureen Butt volunteered to organize the small dinner groups for this incoming Journey.

FFI World Conference October 2023: Carol Nasby plans to attend

FFI Global Journey November 2023 to Taiwan: Maureen Butt, and Michelle Kemps plan to attend.

Recruitment committee:

Sue Linehan, and Joanne Collins have approached all members and have made an appeal to fill two Board member positions for outgoing Board members Maureen Butt & Linda Supakoff.

Carol Nasby has volunteered to step up to President position.

Judy Carson and Teresa Libby have volunteered to co-share the position of Vice President. Judy Carson will take over membership committee.

Maureen emphasized that the work that is expected of a Board member is a commonsense approach that will benefit all members - every member of our club has an experience, background, and personal stories that express richness and talent and "know how" which will be of real value for the direction of our club.

The election of officers will take place at the December meeting.

The December meeting will be held on December 14 at 4 PM in Estero at Luvvy Kovacich's clubhouse. It will be a holiday party, potluck, dinner, and gift exchange.

Club membership 2023 dues were collected by Treasurer, Richard Collins.

This meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM and members gathered for our luncheon reservation at the Colonial Country Club restaurant.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Butt for Marcia Ellis (Secretary)

