

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

Piedmont Triad Regional Council, Kernersville, NC

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Don Sylvester, Ray Kiszely, Mary Davis, Patti Gilmour, Woody Clinard (Member At-Large), Ann Barefield (Future Journey Coordinator)

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Minutes of August 8, 2019 were approved by Ray Kiszely and seconded by Mary Davis.

Ray Kiszely presented the Treasurer's report. It was approved by Woody Clinard and seconded by Don Sylvester.

It was agreed to increase the 2020 club membership dues to \$30 on January 1, 2020, when FFI's increase will take effect.

There are some reimbursement questions related to the August journey to East Lansing, Michigan. The first is regarding the two ambassadors who were unable to travel there due to health issues. The second is about the return of a leftover amount from the travel allowances. Ray will contact Judy to get some clarity about the financial issues and will report the outcome at the next Board meeting.

**JOURNEY'S UPDATE**

**2019**

-Domestic Outbound- Greater Lansing, Michigan, August, 2019

Woody Clinard who attended the domestic outbound journey to East Lansing, Michigan (and became the acting journey coordinator in place of Judy Greene who could not fulfill this role due to health issues) reported that the journey was very good for him and the 5 ambassadors who accompanied him. He thought there had been an enjoyable agenda and a warm welcome from their hosts.

**2020**

-International Inbound - Sydney, Australia, May 7-13, 2020

Woody Clinard and Ann Barefield have volunteered to be the journey coordinators for this incoming journey.

Ray has been in touch with the Sydney club and will forward the information and correspondence that he has received to Woody and Ann.

-International Outbound - Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada (June or early July, 2020)

Don reported that Brenda Humphrey has volunteered to be the journey coordinator with Judy Greene as her mentor.

Patti reported that she had talked to Brenda and Brenda will contact Ralph Cauthen about any information he has received from the Lethbridge club. One email from that club indicated that they set their minimum of guest ambassadors at 12 and their maximum at 20.

-Domestic Outbound - Northern Colorado (early August, 2020)

At this time we do not have a journey coordinator for this journey.

The Colorado club coordinator has indicated that this will be a different type of journey as the club is going to organize a global "themed" inbound journey for 2021 and they would like our club to experience it in 2020 and give them feedback so that they can fine-tune it for other clubs in 2021.

-Domestic Inbound - Oklahoma City (mid to late October 2020)

As yet our club does not have a journey coordinator for this inbound and we do not have any information from the Oklahoma club other than their interest to come to our club and the desired timing.

-It was noted that we will have to determine if we will have sufficient membership to fill the minimum number of participants for both of the two outbound journeys that have been planned relatively close to each other (Canada in late June or early July; Northern Colorado in early August).

-Open World

The club received a request from Open World to consider hosting Open World in 2020. The Board agreed that, with the 4 journeys in 2020, we would have to refuse this request. Ray will respond to Open World with this information.

## **2021**

-Domestic Inbound - Northern Colorado (mid October, 2021).

Our club does not yet have a coordinator for this inbound journey.

### **Planning for the second half of the year:**

-Nominating Committee for the 2020 Council members

Woody Clinard, a member of the nominating committee, reported that there will be three new members: Ann Barefield, Charles John, and Woody, bringing the total number of Board members to 6 (Ray Kiszely, Mary Davis, and Karla Shanahan will stay on the Board in 2020). Woody will follow up with another possible interested member. There currently are no members willing to be “at-large” participants on the Board next year.

Barbara communicated with the club via email asking for volunteers for the Council or for at-large members of the Board next year. Calls were to be directed to Woody but as of at this date he had not received any responses.

At the Annual Meeting October 12th, the membership will be asked to vote to approve the Council nominees.

Ray suggested that more people be asked to consider being an At-Large member. In this capacity, they may be more at ease about eventually becoming a full member of the Board.

-Annual Meeting, October 12, 2020

The Annual Meeting will be held at SalemTowne on Saturday, October 12 from 12:00 to 2:30.

Ann and Woody were thanked for making these arrangements for the club. The meal will be catered and will cost \$12.00 per person (guests' meals are free - paid for by the club). Ann reported that there will be an additional cost of \$90.00 for the 3 servers. The Board agreed for the club to pay this additional cost.

Don reminded the Board members that at the annual meeting, the membership is going to be asked to vote on three important business matters:

- a) Vote for the Council members for 2020
- b) Vote on the Council (versus the previous Board) management structure
- c) Vote on proposed changes to the Council (from 7 to 9 members, serving rotating 3 year terms).

It was decided, given our lack of success in getting more than 6 members to agree to be on the 2020 Council, that we will retract the C) proposal, so there will be only two items for voting.

Regarding the content/agenda of the annual meeting, it was suggested that time be added for promoting the two outgoing journeys: (1) for the Lethbridge journey, perhaps including a promotional video on Lethbridge (Patti has found one on line), (2) for Northern Colorado, perhaps someone (e.g., Ralph Cauthen) reading from Colorado's description of their Global Themed Journey "High Plains to the High Alpine".

Ann asked if she could announce an invitation to residents in Salem Towne who have some interest in joining Friendship Force to attend our annual meeting. The Board approved her suggestion.

Barbara had communicated a request to be able to give the entertainer for the annual meeting an honorarium of \$50.00 (in the form of a gift card). The Board agreed to this.

As Mary will not be attending the Annual Meeting, she asked that someone be responsible for registering guests and giving them brochures, etc. She also has some name tags for recent new members and wants them to be given to the members. Patti volunteered to arrange this.

-October 10th Board Meeting

As Don will be out of the country for three weeks and will not return until a day before the next Board Meeting, he will send out an abbreviated agenda before he leaves next week. He asked Board members to email him with any additional requests regarding issues they want discussed at the next Board meeting, if they will be unable to attend and any details they want discussed if they will not attend.

Don asked that Ray and Barbara follow-up, between now and the October Board meeting, with developments in the planned 2020 journeys so they can give status reports at the Board meeting (Ray - Canada and Northern Colorado; Barbara - Australia and Oklahoma City).

It was suggested that, if Barbara would prefer that the October Board meeting be earlier (e.g., a week earlier than scheduled) so it would be more in advance of the annual meeting, we could change the meeting date.

#### -FFI 2021 International Outbound Journey Matching Process

Barbara has emailed the FFI International destination surveys to all members, who are asked to list their preferred international destinations for outbound journeys in 2021. She is slowly receiving responses. Don encouraged all Board members to return their own surveys to Barbara as appropriate.

Don has asked Ray to take on the responsibility of submitting to FFI our club's input to the matching process before the November 1 deadline. Ray has agreed to do this.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Mary reported that we now have 77 members.

Mary reported having some difficulty emailing the up-to-date membership list to the membership in a form that they can open. The Board agreed that she should be able to hire someone to give her technical assistance, whenever she feels it is necessary. It was also suggested that she contact Barbara about whether, in the new design of the FFCNC website, the site could contain both public and restricted access areas so the membership list could be kept and updated there in a restricted access area.

### **OTHER**

#### -FFCNC Website

Don reported that Crista Douthit will not be in charge of the FFCNC website after October 2019. The Board thanks her for the excellent work she has done to date.

Barbara emailed Don the information she has at this time regarding

finding a new webmaster. She met with a new website person who has recommended changing websites from Go Daddy to Susan Tague at IONOS Essential. We agreed on this change and her charges. It was noted that, if we do not have a member willing to maintain/update our website, hiring Susan for this responsibility seems to be a good alternative.

-Reservations for the PTRC conference room

Ray reported that he had reserved the conference room for Oct. 10th, Nov. 14th, and Dec. 12th.

-Peter Peiffer currently keeps the FFCNC banner and audio visual equipment but will not be able to do so in the future. We will have to find someone to give it a new home. TBD.

-Ray recommended that the club purchase a new up to date banner. Mary suggested also that we should eventually have t-shirts or golf type shirts with our logo. These recommendations must be researched.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**