**Members Present:** John Wilhelm (President), Cynthia Williams (Vice President), Ron Scott (Treasurer), Bonnie Evans (Web Master), Glenda Wilhelm (Social) and Linda Foley (Membership)

**Minutes:** President John Wilhelm requested that Linda Foley take minutes for this meeting.

Minutes of the June 11th meeting were approved with the correction of two typos: (1) in the last sentence of the Social Committee section change “in” to “is” and (2) in the first sentence of the Old Business section change “stall” to “staff”.

The Board discussed posting approved Board meeting minutes on the club web site. The decision was made to include Board meeting highlights in the newsletter instead of posting the minutes.

**Treasurer’s Report:** The Treasurer’s Report was approved as submitted. Ron presented an analysis of income and expenses for inbound and outbound Journeys. To-date the club has not incurred a significant shortage for any Journey. If a shortage occurs in the future the Board will discuss how to handle the situation.

**Journey Reports:** Cynthia reported the Aussies enjoyed the exchange and particularly enjoyed the opportunity to meet other club members at Stone Mountain.

Bonnie reported that 18 people (six couples and six women traveling solo) would be coming from Oregon. Five home hosts and three dinner hosts are confirmed. Additional home hosts are needed. The hand-off of participants to the Big Canoe Club will take place Oct. 26.

John reported:

* A Journey Coordinator and hosts are needed for the Russian Ambassadors. John estimates 13 to 15 Ambassadors will participate in the Nov. 27 – Dec. 4 Journey.
* FFGA will host Ambassadors from County Durham, England in March or April 2018. We need a Journey Coordinator and Hosts for this Journey.
* We do not yet have dates for the Club’s 2018 Journey to Cairo, Egypt. Bonnie recommended that, when discussing plans for the Cairo Journey, John confirm that a trip to the Valley of the Kings will be included. There was a brief discussion about add on trips. Bonnie said it would be very difficult to visit Jordan and Israel before or after visiting Egypt; however, visiting Israel and Egypt during the same trip would be easy to do.

**Membership:** Linda reported:

Deborah Ellis has joined FFGA bringing total membership to 80. Cynthia will call Deborah to welcome her to the Club. Deborah selected several volunteer options on the membership form for being involved with the club. Linda will contact Sue Mills to see if she can use a new member to help with the newsletter.

* There is a need for a FFGA piece that can be sent to people who inquire about membership. The expectation of member involvement in hosting and planning Journeys needs to be stressed. John suggested asking Pat Holt to help with this project.
* The membership application needs to be revised. Linda will draft a revision and send to the Board for review.
* Assistance is needed with Membership administration including volunteer placement.

Linda also asked about how new members who volunteer to host are vetted. There was some discussion about the possibility of re-instituting home visits for new hosts but no decision was reached.

**Nominating Committee:** The Board approved sending an email blast to solicit nominations and confirmed that only nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are being sought.

**Social:** Glenda reported:

* There might be some confusion with the restaurant about the day for the FFGA Annual Meeting. She will confirm the day and date with Mimi’s.
* Oct. 28 there will be a Club outing to the Cowboy Festival in Cartersville; attendees should plan to arrive by 10 am. The Sakmars are planning the day and will suggest some place the group might have lunch.
* An idea has been put forth to have a potluck dinner with guests bringing a dish from a country they have visited.
* She is looking for an ethnic restaurant where the club can meet for a meal before August 20.

**Old Business:** Linda mentioned that restricted funds for West Georgia and the Decatur High School Scholarship Fund still appear on the books. She mentioned that she recalls attending a meeting where there was a decision to dissolve those funds. There was some discussion but the item was not resolved.

**New Business:** John announced that the Board would not meet in September.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Linda Foley.