**MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**OF**

**THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF GREATER ATLANTA**

**At Mimi’s Café, Sunday, October 16, 2016**

**3:30 to 5:30 p.m.**

1. Welcome by President John Wilhelm followed by recognition of guests.

2. The 2017 slate of officers for FFGA Board of Directors were discussed by John Wilhelm. The current officers with the exception of the Secretary, Beverly McCray, agreed to serve another term. The nomination from the floor for Secretary made by Cynthia Williams for Carole Dortch was accepted. The slate of officers for the 2017 FFGA Board of Directors: President- John Wilhelm; Vice President- Cynthia Williams, Secretary- Carole Dortch, Treasurer-Ron Scott, were unanimously approved. Other approved Board members/ positions: Anne Earle- Communications, Bonnie Evans- Webmaster, Sue Mills- Newsletter, Barbara Shields, Social Activities, and Linda Foley, Membership.

3. Treasurer’s Report was discussed. Ron reported $5,000.00 in the checking account. Small amount of funds are used to subsidize the Annual Meeting and Holiday party. He received a Vanguard annuity check $17,000 that will be moved to a local bank. In response to an inquiry about what happens if funds are not used, John indicated that funds could be given to FFI, if approved. The accrued amount of $22,000.00 was contributed to the club years ago and has accumulated through the years.

4. Reminder: Annual Membership dues: Couple- $50.00, Individual- $35.00 due December 31st.

5. Exchanges: A brief synopsis of the 2016 FFGA support of FFI activities was shared. In June, 2017, a group of fifteen will visit from Australia. In October, 2017, an exchange from Oregon will be coordinated with the Big Canoe Club.

Epic Exchange to Tanzania with Safari Extension (August 31-September 18, 2017), Bonnie Evans, Exchange Director, shared an in-depth discussion about the exciting trip. A handout was distributed to interested members. Capacity: 20 ambassadors.

October 2018, the annual FFI conference will be held in Manchester, England.

6. Cynthia Williams provided information about the outbound exchanges selection and approval processes. A list of potential outbound exchanges for 2018 was distributed. Each member selected and prioritized three potential outbound exchanges for 2018. After all votes are tallied, the 2018 exchanges will be announced at a future date.

7. Social Activities Committee report was given by Barbara Shields. She expressed gratitude to the members: Linda Foley, Pat Holt and Sue Mills for their help with the Annual meeting. Activities planned for 2016 and suggested future ideas from the committee were shared. The book club will meet October 22 at Cynthia’s home. On November 3, members will volunteer to sort eyeglasses at the GA Lions Lighthouse Foundation. A sign-up sheet was distributed. All members were encouraged to attend the FFGA Holiday party, Saturday, December 3, 2016, Violette Restaurant, 1:30 p.m., Clairmont Road, Atlanta, GA, 30308. Cost- $30.00 per person. Guests, former members and friends are welcome to attend.

7. Closing remarks by President John Wilhelm followed by adjournment.