

**EAC Meeting  
Fontbonne University Board Room  
January 8, 2020**

Joan Kelly called the meeting to order at 9:01 am; the group then recited the opening prayer. Those in attendance were: Barb Atteln, Paula Bakula (by phone), Nancy English, Joan Falk, Maggie Fowler, Joan Kelly, Susan Lenihan, Wendi Valenti, and Mary Lee Walter.

*Minutes:* Nancy English

After two minor changes, the minutes were approved.

*Treasurer:* Paula Bakula

Paula clarified a few items in her report which had been sent to EAC members prior to this meeting. Joan Kelly reminded us that since we are distributing our awards in April this year, we will have fewer dollars to give than if we were distributing the awards in July; April and May membership dues would not have yet been received. However, a sum of \$29,000, representing unused funds from previous awards, has been returned and will be added to this year's available funds of approximately \$61,000.

*Corresponding Secretary:* Barb Atteln

Barb reported in November, she had written ten acknowledgements of renewed memberships, one get well card, one thinking-of-you card, one CSJ prayer card, and a sympathy card. In December she had acknowledged three renewed memberships and had congratulated one new member.

*Wendi Valenti: FCC Liaison*

Wendi announced that Kay Barnes had returned to the university to take over as Vice-President of Advancement. Maggie added that Kay had been at the university when FCC was founded and had played a major role in getting FCC organized and running smoothly.

*Archives:* Nancy English

Nancy reported that she and Rebecca van Kniest, Fontbonne library archivist, had met with Nina Bryans to discuss the archives.

*Awards:* Susan Lenihan and Mary Lee Walter

As of the time of this meeting, FCC had received absolutely no negative comments regarding the new Awards timeline. It was suggested that before setting the date of the April 18<sup>th</sup> Awards Celebration in stone, perhaps we should ensure there are no other events taking place that day. The gathering is planned to take place in Medaille Hall; Wendi said she would make sure that the location was reserved. Susan added that she planned to invite Nancy Blattner. In order to better select this year's awards, Mary Lee Walter had asked Adam Weyhaupt, Dean of Arts and Sciences, to give FCC a sense as to what were the most important goals of the university. His

response to her emphasized the goals on which the university is currently trying to focus: (1) Undergraduate and graduate recruitment, (2) Retention, (3) Diversity, (4) Equity, and (5) Inclusion. Maggie commented about the importance of inviting prospective members to attend this Awards Celebration. It was suggested that the new “Gunner” be invited to attend as well.

*Bylaws:* Barb Atteln

Barb had sent via email the results of her work thus far. In that the Bylaws state that the annual meeting should occur in July, she noted that would have to be changed. The status of the Archives and History Committee would also have to be addressed. In that have the FCC membership roster is currently published on FCC’s Google Drive, Barb thought we should clarify exactly what information should be included. Joan Falk pointed out how much easier it is for us to change the Policies and Procedures than it is for us to change the Bylaws; we should probably operate under the idea that less is more with respect to the Bylaws. Maggie pointed out that we are not consistent in using the terms EAC chair and FCC chair; this should consistently be written as the FCC chair. If we agree with the premise that less is more with respect to the Bylaws, let’s work to keep this document as streamlined as possible. We will tackle the Policy and Procedures later. Joan Falk added that as a result of our current appointment of committee co-chairs, we need to clarify how voting will take place in EAC. Voting procedure will also have to be clarified for a single person who holds two positions in EAC. One last comment from Barb was that the FCC Manual needed to be updated as well. She reminded everyone that the current manual could be found under the Bylaws Committee on the Google Drive.

*Events Committee:* Mary Grace

Mary was not in attendance – evidently, she had not been aware there was a meeting scheduled for this date. It was noted that new chairs may need a little help in terms of knowing where to find meeting information.

*Membership:* Maggie Fowler substituted for JoAnn Donovan

Maggie suggested we plan a mini-recruitment event – an event sponsored by the Membership committee to showcase what one of the award winners has accomplished with his/her awarded funds.

Joan Kelly reported that the Zell family had donated another \$5000 to the FCC Sponsorship Fund, bringing the total in that fund to \$15,000. Maggie would like the Membership committee to be more proactive in terms of utilizing the Zell scholarship to help solicit new FCC members. Susan Lenihan suggested we might target any graduating woman who was selected as the graduation speaker or as one of the two honorary alumni who add links to the alumni “chain”, as young women with enhanced emotional ties to Fontbonne, who therefore might be interested in becoming FCC members. These young women might be excellent candidates for the Zell Scholarship. She suggested we also check out past winners of Founders’ Awards. Joan Kelly suggested we set up a “new graduate” campaign. Wendi suggested that in order to remove any negative connotation associated with the word *sponsorship*, we should use only the word *scholarship*. It was then suggested that the word *fellowship* might be the best choice – that way the focus is on the gifts and talents of the beneficiary and not the need. We need to better target younger members. This will form the basis for a later discussion.

EAC Meeting Minutes, January 8, 2020

*Communications:* Joan Falk

According to Joan, the winter newsletter will be jam-packed. Attention has been given to a new member, zebra fish, photos from Mass of Remembrance and Lyon society, along with lots of other goodies. Joan Falk suggested that Joan Kelly recognize the new Zell donation in her president's message.

*Calendars:* Wendi Valenti

In that we normally announce the new officers and committee members at the annual meeting, Wendi asked if we will be ready to acknowledge the new officers and committee chairs in April. Do we need to do our officer election earlier? Do we need a July meeting at all? Consensus is we will just be dealing with awards at the Awards Celebration in April. Maggie suggested that the full-membership-planning meeting be moved to July, rather than in August, as it is currently scheduled. This discussion will be on the agenda for the next meeting. Joan Falk remarked that there really was no reason the annual meeting had to coincide with the Awards Celebration.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 am.

*Respectfully submitted by Nancy English, Recording Secretary.*