

**EAC Meeting
March 11, 2020
Fontbonne University
Boardroom**

At 9:00 am, before officially beginning the meeting, the EAC members who were present discussed the adverse effects of the current coronavirus on the face-to-face roundtable scheduled for March 21. Wendi added that at the previous night's roundtable, several people had chosen to call in as opposed to appearing in person. In her opinion, it would be better to not have both on-site and off-site attendees at the meeting simultaneously. Her recommendation was to either hold two different meetings on March 21, where one would consist only of on-site attendees and the other would consist only of off-site attendees, or, there should just be one single virtual meeting. (The only other remaining roundtable, slated for March 18, was originally scheduled as a virtual meeting.) It was agreed that Joan Kelly, Susan Lenihan, and Wendi Valenti would together decide how the remaining roundtables would progress and would develop a plan for an alternative Awards Celebration, should the need arise.

The meeting was officially called to order at 9:20; the prayer was read.

Those in physical attendance were Barb Atteln, Nancy English, Joan Falk, Maggie Fowler, Mary Grace, Joan Kelly, Sandy Lehrer, and Wendi Valenti. Paula Bakula, JoAnn Donovan, and Mary Lee Walter attended by phone.

Minutes: Nancy English

The minutes were approved contingent upon Joan Kelly's approval of Nancy's clarification of the reported source of income in the FCC Sponsorship Initiative Fund.

Treasurer's Report: Paula Bakula

Paula provided the report from February 2020. Clarification was given regarding those members who would be allowed to vote. Any member who was listed as a member in good standing as of March 27th (the voting deadline) would be eligible to vote. If a member is a new member in March, as long as her dues were paid by March 15, she would be eligible to vote. The March membership roster, which Ann Spall usually runs within the first few days of April, will inform the available funds for distribution for this year's awards.

Communications: Joan Falk

Joan will redesign the invitations going out regarding the Awards meeting, April 18, to reflect the current health situation.

Archives: Nancy English

Nancy had met with the Awards committee to determine what should and should not be included in their annual report to FCC.

Awards: Mary Lee Walter

There was nothing to report that had not already been discussed in this meeting.

Bylaws: Barb Atteln

Bylaws remain on hold for the moment.

Events: Mary Grace

Mary will be contacting her members by phone to see if anyone would like to bring food items for the 18th Awards Celebration. Nina Bryans had mailed \$25 to Mary to help with anything that was deemed necessary – this money will go into the Operational Fund. Mary already had pastries organized. Wendi planned to help Mary coordinate with Food Services to get beverages organized. Nina's donation could be used to purchase quiches, pay for beverages, or something else like that. Mary said she would let Nina know to what her donation was directed and if, in the end, we have a virtual meeting, she would offer to return her donation.

Communications: Joan Falk

Joan reminded us that another of the negative consequences of not having a face-to-face Awards meeting would be that there would be no pictures. ☹

Membership: JoAnn Donovan

Maggie Fowler and Joan Kelly had attended the Alumni Board meeting to talk about FCC and to leave literature regarding the organization. At the conclusion of that meeting, all of the literature had been taken, indicating some level of interest on their part. Wendi has created a list of approximately 40 *suspects*, who, if fate will allow, could be invited to the Awards Celebration. *Suspects* are those women who, according to donation amount and frequency, have not only expressed continued interest in the university but also look as if they could afford the dues to become FCC members.

At the last Membership committee meeting, discussion had centered around the FCC Sponsorship program and how the FCC might begin to finally use those funds in an effective manner. JoAnn reported that one idea coming from that meeting was to possibly give full memberships to some young graduates. JoAnn wondered what the EAC's opinion might be regarding this. JoAnn was seeking direction from the EAC concerning the use of these funds – does the EAC want the Membership committee to make these determinations on its own, or does EAC want to be involved in the decision making?

Joan Kelly thought we should probably wait to make this sort of decision. After discussing this situation with Adam, his initial reaction was most graduates would not be able to afford the \$500 needed on their part. Maggie suggested we set up an Ad Hoc committee whose charge would be to develop a plan for using these funds.

Should we have varying levels of membership? At this point of the meeting, Joan Kelly provided a little history regarding this issue. Joan and a group of younger members had at one time put forth a proposal that there be three levels of membership based upon the ability of members to pay. Her group sent out a survey to the membership to determine the degree of receptiveness to this idea; the results indicated members were not receptive at all (because of both monetary and social reasons). Her committee realized how futile it would be to continue promoting this plan and they abandoned the idea; however, this became the motivation behind the FCC Sponsorship Initiative.

Joan Falk put forth a very a good point here. Where we used to give money for hopes and dreams, we now are giving money to take care of items that were once part of each department's budget. In reality we are even more important now that ever before. She thought this would be a good message for young graduates to understand while Fontbonne is going through this tough period.

Wendi announced that the next Membership committee meeting, scheduled for April 1, would be held virtually.

FCC Liaison: Wendi Valenti

Wendi wondered if the EAC would like to “practice” a virtual meeting for our April Awards, rather than first trying to do this on April 18th, when we have all of these folks calling in to attend. Consensus was that this would be a good idea. Maggie suggested that possibly Wendi could also set up a dry run for FCC folks who are not very tech savvy.

Awards Celebration: Joan Kelly suggested Sr. Donna Gunn as the person to give the toast at the Awards Celebration. Joan reported that invitations for Sr. Barbara Jennings, and Michael Pressimone had already been sent and both had accepted the invitation.

April 16th Breakfast with Nancy Blattner:

The original plan for this breakfast was for 10:00 am on April 16th. Joan Falk thought we should just cancel this; however, since Nancy was already planning to be on campus, perhaps we should still meet with her. It was agreed that if Kay Barnes, who is doing the schedule for her visit, determined Nancy would prefer not meeting, it would then be cancelled. This had been intended to be an informal meeting to give Nancy an idea of the function and purpose of the FCC. EAC members who agreed to be part of this meeting are Barb Atteln, Nancy English, Joan Falk, Maggie Fowler, Joan Kelly, Sandy Lehrer, and Wendi Valenti. In that Mary Lee was responsible for the Summer Tour, she would include her own meeting with Nancy Blattner at that time.

New Leadership: Joan Kelly discussed the method in which new leadership is determined – a committee is set up to generate nominations as well as to consider self-nominations, which will be solicited by Joan via a letter to the membership. If any EAC member would like to be part of such a committee, she should contact Joan. The only two positions that are open at this moment are the Chair and Vice-Chair. Mary Grace added she would like to have a co-chair; otherwise she would like to step down as Events Chair.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy English, Recording Secretary