

**EAC Meeting Minutes**  
**October 12, 2022**  
**Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 8:56 a.m. by Chair JoAnn Donovan. Lucy Hahn read the opening prayer.

Those in attendance were JoAnn Donovan, Joan Falk, Lucy Hahn, Joan Kelly, Ruth Ann Kerr, Susan Lenihan, Barbara Stroer, Kathy Tanner, Wendi Valenti and Mary Lee Walter.  
Those not in attendance were Barb Atteln, Connie Diekman and Nancy English.

**Agenda and Consent Agenda: JoAnn Donovan**

Wendi Valenti requested to add the Mass of Remembrance to the agenda. The revised agenda and the consent agenda were approved.

**Review of Annual Award Celebration and Campus Tours – Mary Lee Walter. Susan Lenihan and Wendi Valenti**

The Annual Awards Celebration on September 30, 2022 was the first attempt to hold as a hybrid event. Some awardees and some FCC members were present in person in the Library Board Room and some were on Zoom. Hybrid meetings for future Annual Awards Celebrations was regarded positively. Ideas discussed to improve future hybrid celebrations included:

- Sending detailed instructions on how to manage Zoom for virtual awardees and participants.
- The mechanics of using two cameras so that virtual participants might feel more connected by being able to view the speakers and attendees within the physical space.
- Reminder to awardees re: facing camera when speaking and staying within the allotted time.
- Possibility of time for introductions and socialization/chatting and how to manage for hybrid and/or virtual attendees.
  - Break-out rooms
  - Before or after the Awards Celebration.

**Review of Campus Tours: Mary Lee Walter**

Campus Tours were offered on Saturday, October 1, 2022 as part of the Centennial Homecoming Celebration and Open House. Those alumni who took the tour enjoyed it although the overall attendance for homecoming events was lower than expected. Wendi reported that nearly 40 had registered for Homecoming with only 5 regrets received. The Alumni Engagement office is rethinking factors that may be contributing to the unexpected lower turnouts at several events and include

- The registration process itself.
- Weather conditions and predictions.
- Facebook and other social media platforms – is this the way that alumni are keeping in touch and what changes might Fontbonne need to consider.

**Mass of Remembrance: Wendi Valenti**

Prior to Covid, FCC celebrated the Mass of Remembrance as a special in-person event at Fontbonne and not always on November 2. Wendi presented 2 options for this year's celebration:

- Option 1 - Celebrate at Fontbonne in person event only.

- Option 2 – Sisters of St. Joseph live streams All Souls Mass on November 2 with electronic submission of the names of deceased loved one(s) who have died since the previous November. Wendi is waiting to hear whether EAC members may attend in person.
- It was agreed that Option 2 was preferred.

This discussion led to clarifying the remembrance and memorial brick for Nina Bryans, one of the original founding members of the FCC who passed away this year. FCC has specifically requested that Nina's name be placed on the Motherhouse Chapel altar to be remembered in prayer.

Kathy Tanner verified that there are adequate funds to order a large memorial brick for Nina. A motion to spend \$1000 for the purchase of a memorial brick in Nina's honor was approved by all present. A modification to the motion specifying that such an honor is reserved only for the five founding members was passed by all present. The wording for the brick will be finalized after the EAC has approved it.

### **FCC Open Space Strategic Planning Meeting – Come Dream with Us: JoAnn Donovan**

JoAnn shared the agenda emailed to her by Mary Ann Moore, facilitator for the November 9, 2022, FCC Open Space Strategic Planning meeting. JoAnn will email this agenda to the EAC members following today's meeting.

JoAnn led the discussion and requested input on the following topics and questions:

- Invitation List – Mary Ann suggested a broad invitation list including all FCC members who can include invitee(s), Administration, alumni, faculty, staff, students, men, posting on social media. The rationale for expanding the invitation list encourages considering a broad range of perspectives, some of which may have never been thought about previously.
- Since this is a hybrid event and all these individuals with different ideas could attend, how does this work regarding FCC's mission/purpose?
  - How does FCC do more to grow? This has been the #1 goal. Do we want to grow and how badly? Are we be satisfied with the present status and continue to recruit women who fit our current membership description and who can pay the \$1000 dues?
  - If we grow bigger, can we do more good for Fontbonne with twice as many members?
  - Including invitations to men who are connected to Fontbonne – board members, faculty, staff, alumni.
    - Joan Falk stated the likely need to revise the FCC mission/purpose considering several possibilities:
      - The current award limit is \$2000. Could the limit be increased with a growth in membership?
      - The original purpose of the awards was to fund hopes and dreams but it has also been used to fund essentials.
      - A revision will be required if men are accepted.
- This is not intended to be a decision-making event. Although several ideas may be presented to the entire group during the Open Space period, it seems likely that there will be 5 or 6 that emerge as some ideas fall away if no one signs up for them for group breakouts or some ideas may be interrelated and combined for a group. Due to time limitations, only some prioritization may be possible after the large group gathering.
- JoAnn asked EAC members to think about where we go next and share ideas, feelings, possibilities and impediments via email before the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. This is not to make

decisions beforehand but may help if similar questions come up during the strategy meeting and help promote thinking.

### **Invitation Wording**

The wording needs to reflect FCC's desire to have participants share their ideas to chart a roadmap for FCC's future work. "Come Dream with Us" about where we go next and avoid any perception that this is a membership recruiting event.

- Wendi discussed the need to finalize the wording since mailing needs to be sent by Friday, October 14, 2022 which is about 3 weeks before the event.
  - A sample invitation was sent by Joan Falk for Mary Ann's feedback. Wendi, JoAnn, Joan, and Connie Diekman will work together to finalize the invitation wording.
  - Invitations have been sent to all FCC members, all Alumni Board Members and Fontbonne Student Government.
  - Information/Invitations have been shared with campus publications and put on the Advancement Team calendar.
  - Mary Ann's suggestion to share with social media platforms was discussed. It was agreed that this audience was too broad and not already connected to Fontbonne in some way that would be of interest to them.
  - Sending invitations to other women's giving organizations. Perhaps an outcome of the Strategy Meeting may provide a more specific reason for the EAC to connect with these organizations as a resource.
  - Encourage FCC members to invite others who would have an affinity for Fontbonne, be connected to a giving group or have some other related experience. The purpose of the meeting is not recruitment.
  - Personal invitations to others in addition to the general invites to acknowledge the value of each individual's attendance.
    - Board of Trustees
    - Dr. Blattner
    - Member of appropriate administrative team, e.g., Chair of Faculty Affairs, Student Government, representative of staff organization, to ask if they will ensure that there is representation from their group. We realize that 3 hours is a time commitment but could release time be granted to at least one person who could report back to their colleagues?

### **Follow-Up: Calendar Updates**

- Year-end Reports Due
- Strategic Planning Meeting November 9, 2022 9:00 am – noon
- Annual Meeting (April 2023)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

## **Officer and Committee Reports**

- **Recording Secretary: Barb Stroer**  
The minutes from the 9/14/2022 EAC Meeting were approved.
- **Treasurer's Report: Kathy Tanner**  
As of September 30, 2022, \$123,588 is available for future rewards. This includes \$9419 for returned funds 21/22 awards.
- **Corresponding Secretary: Ruth Ann Kerr**
  - No new members
  - Wrote a note to Joan Newman thanking her for her work with FCC even though she did not renew at this time.
  - Wrote three notes to those who renewed: Connie Diekman, Kathy Gunn, Donna Gunn, CSJ.
- **Communications Committee Report: Joan Falk**
  - Finalizing articles for next FCC Newsletter to be issued at the end of October, which will highlight the Annual Planning Meeting, Awardee Celebration, St. John's Bible display case, new Nursing Program and include recurring features/information.
  - Developing design/text for FCC November 9 Strategic Planning Meeting and other FCC announcements/invitations as requested.
- **Archives Committee: Nancy English**  
Unable to attend this meeting but included her report for October.
  - Continues working on organizing archives and has been working with those beginning in 2016-2017.
  - Will continue reporting on her progress.
  - Requested that all officer and committee final reports be submitted to her for 2021-22.
- **Awards Committee: Susan Lenihan and Mary Lee Walter**
  - Mary Lee reported that the Awardees' Celebration on September 19, 2022 was the first attempt at a hybrid Zoom event.
  - There were no major technical difficulties thanks to Wendi and Susan's expertise.
  - Only a few alumni took the campus tours offered at Homecoming on October 1, 2022.
- **Events Committee: Joan Kelly**  
Joan had nothing to report.
- **Membership Committee: Lucy Hahn and Connie Diekman**  
No report submitted for this meeting.
- **By-Laws: Barb Atteln**  
Barb had nothing to report.
- **EAC Liaison Report: Wendi Valenti**
  - Requested to add the Mass of Remembrance to the Agenda for today's meeting.
  - Has met with Mary Ann More and discussed the space requirements for the November 9<sup>th</sup> strategic planning session. Is meeting with her again to test some of the technology.
  - Has been working on the award applications that will go live in November.
  - Included a copy of the calendar with the upcoming events through December 9<sup>th</sup> and registration links.

*Respectfully submitted by Barbara Stroer, Recording Secretary on November 07, 2022.*