

MINUTES

Advisory Commission on International Relationships

Meeting date: April 24, 2012

Members present: Natalia Hager, Janet McLeod, Kay Silk, Robin Baker, Sean Johnson, Kay Silk, Christina Barsky, Bob Kelly, Carol Lindseth. Guests: Robin Baker, Sandy Erickson
Meeting called to order at 7:14 PM

Minutes: Janet presented the minutes of March 27th meeting. Kay moved to accept the minutes as read, Carol seconded, and the motion carried to approve the minutes.

Financial Report - Treasurer Natalia Hager reports that our current balance is \$11,751.00. The increase from last meeting is from \$3,000 advance from Open World. Natalia will request more detailed financial information from Joyce at the City of Great Falls.

Old Business:

- Col. Bannon's Presentation - Total spent for refreshments was \$35. The presentation was a huge success with a great turnout and a varied crowd. Reasons for success included: the subject matter was provocative, we used a lot of free (public service) mass media communication. There was a reminder to record all the media contacts, the process of advertising, meeting, and planning in a continuity book. Changes for next time include stricter parameters for speakers on time, linking their topic back to Great Falls, following a format. Art Dolan video taped it (this is his second time). We will invite him and his wife to dinner at Jaker's for the Open World final dinner as thanks. The Commission recognized the role Anders played in connecting us with Col. Bannon. Future possible speakers include bringing Johnson back, and there was a suggestion by Col. Bannon's wife that she may have some connections to Condoleeza Rice.
- Open World Hosting - Robin
 - Itinerary was set by Christina, Natalia, Robin, Sean. Robin presented the latest itinerary: Wednesday is totally firm; Monday is firm except for the Big R stop. Some host homes had to be switched to fulfill delegate requests. One more host family is needed (with no pets). Robin will try to get the Library for the public reception on Thursday. Janet will check on the Liberty Center as a backup plan. Kay Silk will look into Giant Springs for BBQ on Sat the 19th or Elks Riverside. 4 PM or so. Sandy Erickson will donate the hamburgers. Janet will organize the food for Saturday's BBQ. Sean will organize the food for Sunday's potluck. Carol will contact Randy Morger to see if anyone in Ft. Benton can host them on Sunday. We will each need to bring lawn chairs on Sunday. Robin covered expectations of the delegates and we compared them to the itinerary, filling in possible blanks in the week's plans.
- Summer plans - Sean discussed whether or not we would want to meet over the summer months, but it was pointed out that we would need to check with Joyce on that since city commissions are to hold regularly scheduled meetings..unless they are published on the city website way ahead of time. The other question he brought up was whether or not there are notebooks for the incoming people on the board. The city used to give us a binder, and we are wondering if those are still available.

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New Business:

Sean presented a name to be considered for positions to expand the Commission. Christina read the packet of Paul Gallardo to the Commission - he is a National Guardsman and has been in Great Falls since 1999. He is a law school grad and has been involved in other activities related to international relationships. Everyone agreed he sounds like a good fit; Sean will present him to the City for approval.

Public Comment - no public comment.

Next meeting - May 29, 2011 at 7 PM at the Civic Center (The Open World Hosting will be in progress during our regularly scheduled meeting; therefore we will meet the following week).

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Janet McLeod