

## **Draft ACIR Meeting Minutes 7-26-16**

**Time & Place of Meeting:** Rainbow Room of Great Falls Civic Center 7:00 pm.

**Members Present:** Kathryn Kruithoff, Liz Guidara, Michael Kraft, Camile Reovan, and Susan Effertz.

**Members Absent:** Kay Silk, Sandra Erickson, and Kathy Craig

### **Minutes of May and June meetings:**

There were no minutes for the meeting scheduled for 6/28/26; no meeting was held due to absence of a quorum.

Minutes for the meeting of 5/24/16 were available for review. Kathryn requested a correction regarding the May 7 speaker series talk. The talk did occur, was given by Patrizia Boldori, from Italy. Liz moved, and Camile seconded, that the corrected minutes be approved. Vote in favor was unanimous.

**Financial Update:** Formal report not available.

### **Old Business:**

#### **1) Open World Hosting June 4-12, 2016 on Accountable Governance: Forest Management/Fire Protection**

Consensus summary of the Open World Hosting is that it went very well. The immense work by Liz Guidara and Sandra Erickson to put the program together yielded an elegant program. Results of the debriefing of the participants and any other official feedback was not available. Financial considerations will be finalized later but are favorable.

Andrey Ivanov, the facilitator for the visiting group, has been acting as liaison with the local BLM firefighters. There is interest in an exchange program, in which our firefighters would go to Russia for two weeks, likely next year. So far no funding has been identified, so the experience would be self-funded by the participants.

There was discussion about scheduling of short-notice evening events for the Open World participants, taking them away from planned events worked out by their respective host families. The group agreed this should not occur in future hosting(s).

Another suggestion favored having the farewell dinner in the private home of a host family instead of at a restaurant.

#### **2) The International Speaker Series has these plans:**

Saturday, August 6 speaker at Celtic Cowboy 3-5 pm is Paiiva \_\_\_\_ from Finland.

Saturday, September 3 speaker is Theresa\_\_\_\_, from England

Saturday, October 1 speaker is LaToya's husband from Nicaragua.

#### **3) Cantores de Cienfuegos, the Cuban choir ACIR helped to sponsor,**

performed July 11 @ 7:00 pm at GFC-MSU prior to participating in the International Choral Festival in Missoula. The Tribune covered the story well and the performance in Great Falls was extremely well attended.

### **New Business:**

**1) Harold Perverseff of the Lethbridge Twinning Society in Alberta** would like to bring a few Lethbridge folks to spend August 15 through August 18 touring the City of Great Falls and meeting with Great Falls people.

Liz brings this message but is not able to act as the facilitator in person. Ideas for participation included attendance at a Great Falls Voyager game, a tour of MAFB, attendance at the naturalization ceremony for new Americans on August 18, maybe a spaghetti supper or something similar at the home of an ACIR member. Liz will circulate a sign-up posting sheet to assist with making plans, and we are hoping enough ACIR members and friends can step up to make the visit enjoyable and productive for Harold and company.

**2) Naturalization Ceremony**

This will occur at 11:00 at the Federal Courthouse on August 18. Kay Silk is counting on representing ACIR and invites others to do so.

**3) Bills to approve for payment:**

The committee examined and discussed these moneys owed. Motion was made and seconded on each, with unanimous vote on each to reimburse for respective expenses:

Kay Silk payment @249.83 for backpacks for the Open World participants

Sandra Erickson \$2418.17 for expenses of the Open World program

Liz Guidara \$25.93 for charges paid

Kay Silk \$199.97 for expenses of trip to our sister city Lethbridge (re-approval)

**Public Comment:** None.

**Meeting Adjourned:** At 7:52 pm a motion to adjourn was put by Mike and seconded by Liz and voted affirmatively by all.