



Agenda # 11  
Commission Meeting Date: April 7, 2015  
**CITY OF GREAT FALLS**  
**COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT**

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**Item:** Appointments, Advisory Commission on International Relationships  
**From:** City Manager's Office  
**Initiated By:** City Commission  
**Presented By:** City Commission  
**Action Requested:** Appoint members to the Advisory Commission on International Relationships.

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**Suggested Motion:**

1. Commissioner moves:

"I move that the City Commission appoint \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to the Advisory Commission on International Relationships for three-year terms through March 31, 2018."

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, public comment, and calls the vote.

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**Staff Recommendation:** It is recommended that the City Commission appoint members to the Advisory Commission on International Relationships for three-year terms through March 31, 2018.

**Background:** There are currently three vacancies on the ACIR. At this time, two applications have been received for consideration for appointment.

Advertising for the vacant positions is ongoing through the local media and on the City's website.

Purpose

International programs are growing for many reasons. Rapid changes in communications technology, globalization of the marketplace, and political changes in the last decade have all contributed to an increasing awareness these trends will accelerate in the future. Communities, as well as individuals, businesses, and institutions will need to learn to participate in the "global village," or be left behind economically or in other ways. In order for the City to take a leadership role in nurturing and coordinating some of the international efforts, the Advisory Commission on International Relationships was created by Ordinance 2788 on November 8, 2000, and amended by Ordinance 2863 on October 21, 2003. The Commission provides support,

coordination, and exchange of information for international programs in the community. The Commission consists of nine to eleven members.

Evaluation and Selection Process

Advertising has been done through the local media and on the City's website.

Continuing members of this board are:

Charity Jacobson  
Elizabeth Guidara  
Katheryn Craig  
Sandra Erickson  
Dean Koffler  
Ruslan Soldyshev  
Carol Lindseth – term expired but willing to serve until replaced  
Kathryn Kruithoff  
Kay Silk

Citizens interested in serving:

Susan Effertz  
Don Sims

**Concurrences:** At its March 24, 2015, meeting, the Advisory Commission on International Relationships recommended the appointment of Susan Effertz.

**Fiscal Impact:** Not applicable.

**Attachments:** Applications; ACIR Minutes of 3/24/2015  
(Applications not available online; on file in City Clerk's Office.)

### **ACIR Meeting Minutes 3-24-15**

Members present: Charity, Liz, Kay, Dean, Kathryn, Kathy - quorum present

-no meeting minutes from Feb. 24, 2015 meeting- notes provided to members

-motion to approve reimbursement to Robin for carb fest on April 25th with Canadian delegation for \$100: Approved

-Financial update from Kay- have around \$15k in account

### **Old Business**

-international speaker series update from Kathryn

- all set for April speaker a lady

- Kathryn Moves to have ACIR purchase a projector for the speakers and other events--

- Kay suggested getting sanctioned by library to use their equipment

  - Kathryn has concerns about the library taking over the series if we team up with them

- Set for next speaker first Saturday in April 4 at 4:30 in the library basement

- June- Sally Heard- did peace corps in Botswana-- health related posting

- July- Amen's sister is up for it

- Kathryn has ideas for additional marketing venues

- Liz is willing to do some advertising on base for upcoming speaker events

- Liz met another potential candidate for speaker series-- will provide to Kathryn

- Charity's husband Tom has a projector we could use- just needs notice before hand

-citizenship ceremony update - Kay

- next ceremony is set for august 20, and November 19

-city commission planning session report- Charity

- Kathy and Charity attended- on February 23rd- gave update of past events and upcoming events

- Charity told them we are very active- commission seemed interested in presentation

- did some update on sister cities

- Lethbridge has made an official motion to become a sister city-- have appointed a advocate for Great Falls sister city program

-open world update- charity

- two prior open world options have been filed- at this point no open world hosting opportunities, and maybe will get one later in year

- Kathryn has suggested looking into other state department programs for a hosting-- can look into

- Kay suggested partnering with friendship force for hostings

  - alternatively not so bad we have a hosting-- we can focus on our other events

- friendship force collaboration

- could team up for their and our hostings- Will talk to Robin about during the carb party

### **New Business**

-volunteer positions

- because of new applicants and vacancies-- pick new duties for everyone

- picking up duties

  - facebook- Cathy is up for it

- binders for new members-- Dean
- naturalization ceremonies- Liz
  - folders and letters too
- speaker series- Cathy is up for it
  - press release
  - speaker contact
  - facebook update
- hosting communications- Liz
- secretary- backup
- create contact list for everyone--
- verify rainbow room for monthly meetings
- business cards- good deal- gotta ask fast
  - Kathryn says get 500 with general ACIR logo, facebook for contact- we
- Motion to get 500 generic card- with logo, facebook link, and city website- Passed

- More update from open world hostings
- possibilities for alternative hostings--seems like its up to the program to decide- Liz plans on contacting them
- Sandra and Michael are good resources for info on the open world process

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- new commission applicants
  - reviewed applications for Sue Effertz and Donald Sims
  - move to recommend their appointment to the city commission: move to approve Sue- passed

## **Public Comment**

## **Meeting adjourned**