

## CATANIA COMMITTEE – PHOENIX SISTER CITIES COMMISSION

### MINUTES FROM November 18, 2016

**Called to Order:** 5:30 pm

**Attendees:**

- Enrico Orsini
- Terry O'Reilly
- Fern Gold
- Rick Gerrard
- Gianna Giorgio
- Alessia Mogavero
- Charlotte Morrissey
- Wendy Rosov
- Amber Stenbeck (from Thunderbird School of Global Management)
- Pierre Duve (student from Thunderbird)

**Location:** American-Italian Club, 5:30 p.m.

**Welcome & Introductions:** Everyone was introduced and welcomed.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Gianna moved to approve the October minutes with corrections (misspelling of Janine and missing "g" in bringing). Terri seconded. All approved.

**Presentation by Thunderbird School of Global Management** (by Amber Stenbeck): Discussion about Night of the Open Door @ Thunderbird on Saturday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017, from 4 pm to 8 pm in the Erickson Alumni Pavilion (1 Global Place, Glendale, AZ 85306). The event will have "Interactive Exhibits" ranging from Arab Journey to Global Cuisine Sampling. Many are student-run and aimed at people of all ages. Because there is a partnership between Thunderbird SGM and Phoenix Sister Cities, each Committee can have a booth, free of charge at the event (i.e. Phoenix Catania Sister Cities Booth). Note: The Phoenix Sister Cities Board approved participation in this event.

**Motion:** Gianna moved that our committee participate in the Night of the Open Door @ Thunderbird in the Phoenix Sister Cities Zone on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 8 pm. Alessia seconded. Motion passed.

Terry, Fern, and Alessia agreed to help man the booth. (Location: Greenway and 59<sup>th</sup> Ave.) We can sell or raffle items, or simply provide information. Wendy suggested that we decide exactly what to do at the event at the January meeting.

**Scavenger Hunt, January 28, 2017:**

Held a Scavenger Hunt meeting two weeks ago. Wendy reported the following:

- Price point for the event is \$25 members/car club/Italian Club members per person, \$30 non-members per person, \$35 at the door.
- Idea to start at Scramble and end at Il Posto. Left a message with the manager at Scramble to speak to owner but have still not heard back. (Still need to confirm with Il Posto).
- Wendy contacted First Watch on Central (formerly called The Good Egg) and they are willing to act as the starting point for the Scavenger Hunt again.
- Various updates regarding sponsorships: i.e. Fern secured a \$500 sponsorship from a Silver Hawk Financial Services, Rock Auto.com will provide gift cards, etc.

- Have started to connect with other people and organizations

Discussion: To get the flyer out, we must have a starting location. Group decided on First Watch so we could get flyer out and on the Phoenix Sister Cities website. (According to Rick, interns who post the flyer are out beginning Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, so we must have out well before that time.)

To Do:

- **Terry** to finalize the flyer as soon as possible to add starting location and verbiage to indicate that proceeds will benefit Phoenix Sister Cities youth cultural exchanges and related programs—and that Phoenix Sister Cities is a 501c(3) organization. [Flyer needs to get to the Phoenix Sister Cities office before Thanksgiving]
- **Enrico** to contact and finalize with Il Posto this week/early next week
- Committee divided up the work of contacting last year's sponsors for swag bags and raffle items of \$20 and up.
- Swag Bags: Need items to fill bags.
  - We have about 60 Suns bags left over from last year.
  - Thunderbird: Amber committed to provide 75 pens and 75 blow up globes.
- Need Potential "Big" Prizes: Free Night at Wyndham Garden Hotel, Free Cooking Class, Free Makeup & Hair, Free dinner for 4, etc.
- Lunch cost is still to be TBD but if at Il Posto, it can be pizza, which is not expensive.

**Catania Committee Funds:** \$1483.32 balance. Expecting a \$300 reduction for Committee Chair Board dues.

**Youth Ambassador Program:** Encourage sophomore and junior students from Phoenix to apply by the January deadline. Charlotte reported that the deadline to let the Phoenix Sister Cities Youth Ambassador program chair know if we want to sponsor a third Youth Ambassador (YA) is Jan 13, 2017 (we need to notify Bethany Bennick). Paula has not yet approved the cost of sponsoring additional YAs so that cost is unknown at present. We should know within a couple of weeks. However, according to Rick G., air tickets to Catania tend to range from \$1500 to \$2000.

**Motion:** Charlotte moved that we sponsor a third Youth Ambassador, but final commitment will depend on the cost of sponsorship. Fern seconded. Discussion was held. All approved. Enrico noted that we are likely to have more funds by the time we need to pay for a YA, so it is likely that the committee could afford more than we have in our account currently.

**Battle of the Wines Fundraiser:** Enrico provided an update. All details are moving forward as planned. Venue is set (same as last year). Harkins and AMC have committed to provide tickets. Many other sponsors have been contacted.

#### **Italian Festival Participation in March:**

**Motion:** Gianna moved that our committee participate in the festival by sharing a booth as we did last year. Alessia seconded. All in favor. Discussion to ensure that we take shifts manning the booth at the festival, sell hats and tickets to the War of the Wines event. Details to be determined closer to the event.

**Business contacts w/Catania:** No updates.

#### **Upcoming Phoenix Sister Cities Events:**

- Lights of the World** on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016—Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017: Lantern festival at Wild Horse Pass Casino (in Chandler) and is put on by the US-China Cultural and Education Foundation. People can buy tickets using our Committee Code (PSC03) and we will get \$1 per ticket of the proceeds
- Beaujolais Nouveau event on Saturday Nov 19<sup>th</sup>** (fundraiser put on by the Grenoble Committee)
- Disability Book and Bear Donations** (Disability calendar items are on sale now)

D. **Upcoming Italian Events were discussed**, including a pizza festival the weekend of Nov 18<sup>th</sup> and the Italian Association of AZ Holiday Potluck Party in December.

**Call to the Public: None.**

**Adjourn:** 6:54 p.m.; Motioned by Gianna and Seconded by Alessia.