

Minutes of the Phoenix Sister Cities Disability Awareness Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 5th, 2017

The FOUND:RE Hotel

1100 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ, 85003

**Teleconference: 602-744-5850 23646#**

\*Voting Members in Attendance (either in person or via phone)

Robin Baethke\*

Michael Sleeseman\*

Joseph Gesullo\*

Nanette Odell\*

Kathy Buscho\*

Paul Karam\*

Mary Jane Trunzo\*

Dwayne Hartford\*

Rick Gerrard

Miki Safadi\*

Shari Mindlen \*

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:15pm by Joseph Gesullo.

2. Introductions

3. Approval of August 1st, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

It was moved by MJ and seconded by Nanette and unanimously recommended to approve said minutes.

4. Committee Funds Status:

Robin reported that as of 8/16/17 there is \$352.51 in Additional Funds (-\$300 for Joseph's dues), \$1,202.08 in DAC Art, -\$124.40 in DAC Writing, \$1,374.44 in DAC Holiday Fundraiser, and \$1,853.76 in DAC Art and Wine (-\$1,200 for Found:re deposit), with a total of \$2,805.88 in DAC Restricted Funds.

5. International Competition for Writers with Disabilities:

The theme for 2018 is "Promoting Dignity and Equality". Joseph decided to table this until after the ICAD. Mary Jane brought up an email that Claude and Janine Bobin had sent to her regarding "suggestions/recommendations" that they had for future ICWD. Mary Jane read the suggestions and discussion took place. The committee decided that we will continue to do the judging as we have in the past. If the poems come to us untranslated, we will follow our standard protocol, ask the corresponding committee to translate the poems, and if not we will put them through Google translate. We also discussed adding a "Best International Award" to our awards in case the first three winners are all from the same city.

6. International Competition for Artists with Disabilities:

This year's theme is "Empowerment Through Inclusion". The ICAD Event will take place at the FOUND:RE Hotel in Central Phoenix on Friday night, November 3rd from 6:30-9:00pm. Joseph had the committee meet at the hotel for this month's DAC meeting so that everyone could see the space we will be using for the event. Everyone thought it would be a great location. Joseph presented the new brochure. Discussion took place regarding parking and Joseph stated he would work on it. He said people could use the light rail as an option. Joseph reported that the event will cost DAC \$2,500 and that he will be having a fundraiser and will donating approximately \$2,000 to DAC. Rick stated that Joseph will need to submit a new Event Planning Form since the event details have changed. Discussion took place regarding charging people at the door and everyone agreed that \$20 is appropriate. We will not charge for artists and VPs. There will be a cash bar (we can use the hotel's liquor license) and horderves. Raffle tickets will be sold, new and old art and we will be for sale, and we have a Silent Auction. Joseph asked

if the committee could collect restaurant gift cards \$25 and up. 75% of the revenues will go to DAC/ICAD and 25% will go to the General Fund. Mike reported that she will write up a letter for vendors for donations. Joseph stated that Samantha will be in charge of checking people in and collecting money. Rick asked for a flyer to be made up for the night of the event so that he can put it up on the PSC Website. Joseph and Robin will meet to discuss volunteers. Discussion took place regarding purchasing our own easels and we will discuss more at next meeting. Robin asked if the art from last year could be picked up from her office so that there is room for the new art as it comes in. Joseph stated that he and Paul will do that. Mary Jane reported she will contact Ruth Rimmer to secure the sponsorship of \$500 for Best Photo award. Robin reported that David Imes will photograph all the artwork like he did last year and send it out to the judges. He will also be a judge. Joseph stated that he will work on getting more judges. Robin and Joseph need to talk about the pricing of the artwork.

Robin requested \$100 for certificates and other items needed for the night of the event. Mary Jane made a motion, Mike seconded, all approved.

Joseph reported that he would like the committee to pay up to \$300 to assist with international countries mailing their art if it is a hardship. Discussion took place and we will vote on this at the next meeting. Joseph said he spoke with Calgary and they have asked for help. Rick also reported that Himeji asked if we could pay for an oil painting that they would like to enter in the Exhibition side of the completion and to pay for it to be shipped back. Rick will get the details regarding the cost.

Rick reported that she spoke with a representative from the Chengdu Disabled Persons' Federation. Since Chinese National Holiday conflicts with our submission due date, they have requested to get us their artwork on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October. Discussion took place and we will accept the art but the judges will not be given their usual two week time to judge the artwork. Rick will find out how many pieces will be sent.

Rick also reported that from December 1-3<sup>rd</sup> the Federation is holding a disabled artist's exhibit. They are asking DAC to send 10-15 pieces from ICAD. Chengdu will pay for all of the shipping.

Joseph stated that he felt we should do something nice for David Imes for all that he has done for us. We will put this on the agenda for next month. Restaurant gift card and a bottle of wine were suggested.

#### 7. PSC/ DAC Hermosillo:

Mary Jane reported that the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration has been pushed back to April of 2018. Mary Jane stated that she will keep us posted.

Mary Jane stated that Brian Weymouth has a contact with American Airlines (AA). Mary Jane, Jay, and Brian will be putting together a proposal for a grant from AA to be used for Jay's transportation to go to Hermosillo to do mobility training and for the burn camp.

#### 8. Holiday Bear and Book Event:

Kathy Buscho brought the final flyer which was beautiful. Kathy will send a copy to Rick so that he can post it on PSC website. Nanette will add to Fan Page. Robin will contact Friends of Phoenix Library, Phoenix Children's Hospital and Gompers regarding the event. Joseph reported he would like to have the "Holiday Party" at Michel's house on November 18<sup>th</sup> in order to sell the Bear and Book sets.

#### 9. Calendar Update:

Nanette reported that she has most of the calendar reorganized and ready to just drop the pictures in. Robin stated that she will have Nannette come to her office as the pictures come in to A.I.C.C.D., in groups of 10, so that Nanette can take photos of the artwork. Nanette will therefore be able to start placing the photos in the calendar so the calendar will be ready for the "Holiday Party".

10. Website-PSC Facebook Fan Page:

Nannette stated she is updating the PSC Facebook Fan Page with the Bear and Book Event flyer.

11. Daring Adventures:

Tabled

12. Disability Sports Exchange:

Tabled

15. Upcoming PSC Events:

October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Arizona State Sister Cities State Conference

October 21<sup>st</sup> State Fair Worldfest: DAC can have a table/activities if they want. Rick reported that DAC could sell raffle tickets for a gift basket and advertise the Bear and Book event. Mary Jane stated that she and Michael will work on it.

All details on the PSC Website

16. Next meeting is Tuesday November 7th, 2017.

17. Call to the Public:

No Report

18. Call to Adjourn: Joseph called to adjourn the meeting at 6:40.