

Phoenix Sister Cities
Calgary Committee Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2018
Armadillo Grill, 1904 E Camelback Rd
Phoenix, AZ

In attendance: John Rice, Heidi Hiester, Aron Charad, Rick Gerrard, Stephen Thompson, Bob Albert, Penny Clarke, Ida Jones (MIM)

1. Meeting called to order at 5:59 pm by John Rice.
2. Chair Remarks: there is a great opportunity to get things going in Calgary which is good because Phoenix needs to see action on Calgary's side to keep the committee going. Bob Albert has agreed to be Chair next year and has put together a transition plan. All thanked John for his hard work on the committee.
3. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Penny and seconded by Julie and Bob; the motion passed.
4. Nomination of Officers:
John moved to nominate Bob Albert as Committee Chair for fiscal year 2018/2019. Stephen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.
John motioned for Judy Hawley to be elected as the Vice Chair of the committee. Aron seconded this motion and the motion was passed. There was a discussion on the ways Judy will be able to contribute to the committee because she spends time in both Calgary and Phoenix.
John motioned for Aron Charad to be the Secretary of the Calgary Committee. Bob seconded this motion and the motion was passed.
5. Committee Funds: No change to the available funds - there are currently \$1363.42 available.
6. Youth and Education – The penpal program with Wilson Elementary in Phoenix was discussed. Judy got ahold of a principal in Calgary who is excited to participate in the pen pal program but won't know who his school grade teachers will be until June. Bob will meet with them when he is there in August. Bob and Penny will also go to Wilson Elementary to speak about Calgary and Canada.
7. Canada Day Event: The curling club is out as a possible event location as they have too many other things going on that Sunday to fit in a Canada Day event. Judy and Stephen reached out to ice rinks. The Plaza doesn't have facilities for an event but they'd be happy to work with us on a skate. The Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) would be willing to work with the Committee on an event on July 1. From 2-5pm the MIM will host tours pertaining to Canada. Ida will ask the chef for a Canadian based menu for the day. The goal is to have around 50 people attend. Everyone would buy their own ticket to tour the museum. The Canadian national anthem could be played to start off the event. This would not be a fund raiser but a possible way to make some money is to buy a large number of tickets at a discounted price and then sell them at face value and keep the margin. The cost of the food could be rolled into the ticket and sold for \$30. The best way to make some money would be to get a couple of sponsors to purchase the tickets so the Calgary Committee isn't out of pocket for the cost of 50 tickets. There will be a table set up with information on the Calgary Committee.
Penny brought up that there needs to be things for children to do as most of the older people will be back in Calgary for the summer and the attendees will mostly be families who live year round in Phoenix. Ida said they have 60,000 children from school groups, etc. who visit every year so they have plenty for children to do.
Rates for the MIM are:

0-3 – free
4-12 - \$10
13-17 - \$15
18+ - \$20

Rates are cheaper than the zoo and there is air conditioning.

The marketing line for the event could be “Where are you going for your poutine on Canada Day?”

Still need to do marketing for the event which Bob volunteered to work on with a graphics person and find a couple of sponsors.

At a minimum there is a table at the MIM, a tour and a Canadian themed menu. Bob will kick in a gift certificate to Right on Target for a silent auction.

John motioned that we have the Canada Day event at the MIM. Bob seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

8. Camp Courage: No campers expected from Calgary. Still unsure if it is because they are too old to be regular campers or if there is an issue with funding for tickets as they paid for their own last year. The camp itself is free to attend. If the issue is with funds to pay for flights, the Committee could help out with that. Judy Hawley retired from Air Canada.
9. City of Calgary update: in the past several years there have been no exchanges and no youth ambassadors. Phoenix Sister Cities has considered stopping support of the Calgary Committee if the city of Calgary does not re-establish a relationship with Sister Cities. Bob put together an 8 milestone plan for the Committee to get traction with the City of Calgary.

Alan Yang said that U-Haul is still on board for the relationship. Dirtt might be a possibility to work with and PetSmart has a big western Canadian office in Calgary.

Judy Hawley made contact with previous Youth Ambassadors in Calgary and they will meet with Rick, Judy and Bob on the Calgary trip this summer. 2013 was the last time there was a Youth Ambassador from Calgary. It would be good to have 1-2 to sit on the committee in Calgary when it is revived.

The 2 joint venture projects between Calgary to really concentrate on are Camp Courage and the pen pal project.

There is a project called Through Each Other’s Eyes in which professional photographers in different cities exchange photos of their cities.

A weatherman exchange would be a good tourism promotion

It would also be good to get the pancake breakfast for Veteran’s Day going.

10. City of Calgary Sister Cities updates:
 - a) The Grenoble film festival has started with wine tastings and screenings one day each in April, May in June.
 - b) The Disabilities Committee is having their annual writing competition.
 - c) The Chinese dumplings and beer fund raiser is coming up at the end of May.
11. The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 6, 2018, at the Armadillo Grill.
12. Call to public: No comments.
13. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.