

Minutes of the Phoenix Sister Cities Hermosillo Committee

Tuesday May 8, 2018

Half Moon Sports Grill, 2121 E Highland Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Attendees: Emilio Gaynor, Rick Gerrard, Enrique Franco, Rene Bermudez, Michael Sleseman, Martha Martinez, Connie Lords, Natalie Gerity, Snehal Dalal, Dhraști Dalal, Molly Currey, Mallory Currey, Gwen Currey, Jeff Currey, Frank Beltran, Mike Rakowsky.

Call to order: Meeting of the Hermosillo Committee was called to order at 6:07 pm by committee Chairman, Emilio Gaynor.

Welcome and introduction of attendees.

Minutes for Tuesday, April 10, 2018 meeting motioned for approval by Mike Rakowsky, seconded by Frank Beltran. Motion carried.

Hermosillo Choir - Visit, Performance: Rene Bermudez, AZ-Mexico Real Estate Commission, reported on the Hermosillo Children's Choir of 40 children, who will perform on Friday, Oct 19 in Scottsdale, and Saturday, Oct 20 in Phoenix. Rene provided information regarding the visit and program as well as a list of children and parents who have Visas and those who still need them. The Kroc Center in Phoenix has been secured for the Phoenix performance. The Scottsdale Community College auditorium will be secured for the Scottsdale performance. Emilio would like the committee members to decide if they would like to be involved in helping with any aspect of this visit. The children will be home hosted, 20 by Scottsdale, 20 by Phoenix. Host families will provide breakfast and dinners. Bus transportation will be provided by the choir. Our committee will host a post-performance pizza party and a trip to the Phoenix Zoo for choir members and their chaperones. Sponsors will need to be secured for expenses. Rick Gerrard will contact the Phoenix Children's Choir to see if they would like to participate in the event. We will include this visit and performance in our 40th Anniversary Commemoration. Expense for lunch meeting was approved by C. Lords, seconded by M, Rakowsky and approved by all attendees.

Hermosillo Baseball, Art, & Cuisine Tourism Promotion Visit: Rick Gerrard reported his desire to revisit the Hermosillo Promotion delegation trip sometime in November or December of this year. Mike Rakowsky motioned to move forward with the trip, seconded by C. Lords and approved by all attendees. There was discussion regarding the activities during the visit and Rick asked for committee members' support to help promote the trip.

Youth & Education: Mike Rakowsky reported on the YA orientations. The YAs will leave for Hermosillo on June 6. There was discussion on whether to continue with the welcome dinner for YAs from Phoenix and Hermosillo, their families, and committee members when the Hermosillo YAs arrive in Phoenix. Since this is held on a Sunday, we will most likely continue with the 10 year tradition. Two of the YAs on our committee shared legends with the committee members regarding Hermosillo. Very interesting.

Hermosillo Burn Task Force: Frank Beltran reported that work is continuing on obtaining burn medical items for the Project Cure container. Rick Gerrard states they are very close to sending the

container to the Children's Hospital in Hermosillo. Martha Martinez states that she and Dr. Foster, both from the AZ Burn Center, would like to be more involved in the process. Mari will be responsible for accepting the container when it arrives in Hermosillo. Four youth from Hermosillo will attend Camp Courage in Prescott June 3-9. Motion was made to approve up to \$100.00 from the committee Burn Fund to host a pizza party for these youth when they arrive in Phoenix. C Lords approved the motion, seconded by M. Rakowsky and approved by all attendees.

Disabilities Committee: Michael Sleeseman reported on the 12th Annual International Competition of Artists with Disabilities reception and awards to be held Friday, November 3 at the FOUND:RE Hotel. Art entries are being accepted from disabled persons from Arizona or one of the ten sister cities. More info at www.phoenixsistercities.org.

Economic Development: Frank Beltran reported AZ Governor Ducey welcomed Governors from US and Mexico and Premiers from Canada for the NGA North American Summit held May 4-6 in Scottsdale. Governor Ducey states he is proud to have the summit in AZ as we come together to discuss new ways to collaborate on a trilateral level.

Sports Activities: Mike Rakowsky reported a team of youth baseball players, the Mexican National Team, will travel to Phoenix to participate in baseball activities.

40th Anniversary Celebration: Emilio Gaynor reported we will hold the anniversary celebration in conjunction with the Hermosillo Children's Choir Program on October 19 & 20. A business workshop will be held on Friday October 19 revisiting the economic agreement between Phoenix and Hermosillo. The choir will perform in Phoenix on Saturday the 20th. Rick Gerrard will contact the Phoenix Children's Choir to see if they would like to participate in the anniversary celebration.

PSC Updates: Rick Gerrard reported on the DAC Annual International Competition for Writers with Disabilities 2018. Taipei Committee Youth Folk Performance on May 18. Chinese Dumplings and Beer, Chengdu Committee Fundraiser on May 24. For more information on these events and others, visit www.phoenixsistercities.org.

Discussion of Monthly Meeting Venue for Hermosillo Committee: Emilio Gaynor reported on the desire to find a new location for our monthly committee meetings. One that would have handicap accommodations. We would like to find a location that would be no cost or a very minimal cost. Emilio asked committee members to bring ideas to next meeting.

Nominations & Election of Officers: Tabled until next month when more committee members can be in attendance to vote. Emilio expressed his desire and commitment to serve as chairman for another year.

Call to the Public:

Meeting motioned to adjourn at 7:59 pm by Emilio Gaynor, seconded by Mike Rakowsky and approved by all attendees.