

Phoenix Sister Cities
Calgary Committee Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2018
Armadillo Grill, 1904 E Camelback Rd
Phoenix, AZ

In attendance: Penny Clarke, Rick Gerrard, John Rice, Heidi Hiester, Suzy Austin, Allan Yang, Brett Wightman, Kelly Charpentier, Julie Adams, Judy Hawley

1. Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm by John Rice.
2. The attendees introduced themselves to the group.
3. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Suzy and seconded by Heidi; the motion passed.
4. Committee Reports:

Committee Funds

As of January 3, 2018, the last financials we had received were the September 30, 2017 financials. On September 30, 2017 our committee had funds of \$1,067.88. Additional revenue came in from Skate-It-Forward and Canadian Thanksgiving and money went out for the holiday social event in early December.

Youth and Education

The new plan to foster interest is to hold a conference call with youth ambassadors and those in Calgary who want to participate. We would like to meet with the Calgary Chamber of Commerce to make a case to the city as to why the youth exchange program is so important. Background: the reorganization of the city council and subsequent retirement of the person in Calgary government that was managing their Sister Cities program caused it to go dark but Calgary was still participating in the Youth Ambassador program for a while after that. John will take the action of organizing the conference call in February to galvanize a citizen group before involving the city. A place to start would be alumni groups of Arizona schools who are living in Calgary or vice versa. The schools should be able to give us lists of their alumni who are living in Calgary.

5. Committee Activities:

Holiday Social

The holiday social went very well. The debits were \$35 for evite and approximately \$100 for the appetizers at the event. It was well attended and there was good interaction between small groups. Judy suggested name tags for future events. A suggestion for ice breaker games was shot down.

Skate-It-Forward

The Skate-It-Forward event on December 17 was only attended by John from the Calgary Committee. Each PSC city committee which participated in the Skate-It-Forward event will receive about \$200 after the split. John needs help updating the booth to make it more exciting. Suggestions were coloring sheets for the children (Penny suggested outlines of Albertasaurus), information about the stampede, possibly borrowing the steer

heads from the Canadian Picnic. If we did have the steer heads we would need to make sure there was enough room and also it would be good to have someone able to demonstrate roping. A pair of cowboy boots (worn would be best) and a Stetson would be excellent additions to the booth (child size preferred to take up less room, easier to carry and cuter!). Judy volunteered to procure some boots and possibly a hat or a scarf as well. Finally there was a suggestion of a map of Canada so visitors could mark either with pins, dry erase markers or stickers where they are from. We have an oil display from Fort McMurray which is a little outdated but is still used. It would be nice to have another one with a sheet explaining the display. If we are able to bring a display down from Canada it should be driven, not flown to Phoenix.

Great Canadian Picnic

Kelly gave a report on the Canadian Picnic. There is still a need for volunteers the day of the Picnic. Sponsors and games are lined up. The hockey will be different this year but the Coyotes will be there. There are still 2 more meetings before the Picnic on February 3 and all are welcome to help and contribute ideas. Judy volunteered to help out the day of the Picnic and said she has others who are willing to help as well at both the Calgary Committee booth and for the Picnic in general. Rick volunteered to draft a script that would be announced periodically at the Picnic to drive people to the Calgary booth to purchase 50/50 raffle tickets. Heidi suggested that information on Camp Courage be on display at the booth and volunteered to contact Nan at the Burn Center to see what they can provide. Volunteers needed to man the Calgary Sister Cities table at the Picnic: John and Stephen will be at the table in the morning and Rick will come to bring the cash box. Judy and friends will be at the table in the afternoon. Brett will also help out if he is in town.

6. Delegation to visit Calgary: we need to push for an answer as to whether there will be a trip or not by the end of January or early February. The trip package needs to be in place no later than April. Costs still need to be determined to calculate the minimum number of people needed for the trip.
7. Phoenix Sister Cities updates:
 - a) Catania is having a scavenger hunt around the Phoenix Metro area on January 27. The scavenger hunt starts at Park Central with a discounted breakfast for participants. Registration is still open. Typically, 40-50 cars participate. There are prizes at the end.
 - b) Chinese week is coming up in February. Admission is free to the events. Tickets are on sale for the Chinese New Year's banquet on February 24. Gala is in April. It is hoped that members of the Calgary group will attend and possibly make up a table of 10.
 - c) Matsuri "cultural festival" in Japanese – the Japanese festival. There will be a Japanese beer garden.
 - d) A trip to China is happening at the end of March. At this time there are around 6 spots left for those who want to be included in the trip.
8. Call to Public – No speakers.
9. The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at the Armadillo Grill.
10. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm