

Hickory International Council
Thursday, April 21, 2011
5:30 p.m.
Patrick Beaver Memorial Library

A meeting of the Hickory International Council (HIC) was held on Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at Patrick Beaver Memorial Library in the second floor conference room.

Prior to the monthly meeting, a Social Hour presenting The International Festival was held between 5:00 PM and 5:30 PM.

HIC members present: Hani Nassar, Marion Love, Bawol Cabiri, Jack Crawford, Betty Petersen, David Moore, Toshiaki Satake, and Marc Swinnen

HIC members absent: Rosemarie Klingspor, Marie Connelly, Kathryn Grandgenett, Becky Mich, Vanina Joulin-Batejat, and Laura Coker.

Others present: Lea Carras (an intern from France) and Minutes Clerk Patty Williams

A quorum was present.

- I. Mr. Moore moved, seconded by Dr. Love to approve the minutes of March 17, 2011. The motion carried unanimously.
- II. Introduction of guests and Board Membership Changes
Ms. Petersen is now an official member of the HIC.
- III. Old Business
 1. Folkmoot - July 24 @ SALT Block Auditorium—Dr. Love has met with Mr. Nassar and Mrs. Grandgenett to go over strategy. Mrs. Grandgenett will coordinate ticket sales. She received the tickets yesterday. There are 200 adult tickets and 100 children (12 and under) ticket. There are an additional 100 tickets in Waynesville. Tickets will be sold at Gym Dance Cheer, Foothills Gymnastics, and Taste Full Beans. Mrs. Grandgenett will promote ticket sales in the HIC booth at Spring Fest. HIC members will need to sell tickets. Order forms were distributed to members. Adult tickets are \$16, children \$8. Groups get 20% off. Mr. Nassar encouraged everyone to take this seriously and to sell at least 10 tickets. Dr. Love said that the three countries coming in to dance will not be identified until later. The program will be on a Sunday evening and will last an hour and a half. Brochures are not available yet. Mr. Crawford has spoken to Larry Clark at the Hickory Daily Record who wants to do story on the HIC. He will interview Mr. Nassar. This will be an excellent opportunity to publicize HIC events.
 2. Community Conversations - Great Decisions – early September @ PB Library—Ms. Petersen and Mr. Kuchinsky are the leaders. The sessions will begin on Tuesday evening September 6 and will be held every Tuesday through October 11. Mrs. Sizemore has ordered the classroom package which comes with 31 books. HIC members may attend free. About 20 people have signed up. Six of the 10 topics were selected for the program.

3. Prijedor: Lives from the Bosnian Genocide @ CVCC library October 29 – November 22—Ms. Petersen is the contact person. HIC is a co-sponsor with CVCC.
4. HIC Grant ideas—June 30 is that last day that the \$1,000 grant can be awarded. Dr. Love had proposed that the grant be used to purchase international documentary movies for the schools. The movies would be available at the library. It is possible to buy films about any area of the world or thematic movies from The Global Film Initiative. www.globalfilm.org.
5. Spring Fest 2011 – May 6 & 7 @ SALT Block north and south lawn—Spring Fest is only two weeks away and everything is in place. Charlotte Salsa will bring 30 plus dancers on Friday evening. Cindy Taylor designed the postcard. Mr. Nassar showed the passport that people can take around to the different countries and get stamped in order to qualify for prizes. A prize will be given out every hour. Mr. Nassar is gathering prizes and he asked each board member to get a prize. There will be at least six prizes and a grand prize. Dr. Love stated that the City has approved the festival site plan. She described the layout. Nice Asian garden. Dr. Satake will be in charge of the Asian area. Everyone needs to be set up by 9:00 a.m. Mr. Moore will have artifacts from the Middle East. There will be a petting zoo and Heifer International will be present. The Native American exhibit will feature a master storyteller, dancers and demonstrations of blow guns and bows & arrows. Mr. Cabiri agreed to help at the HIC booth and to trouble shoot. The side stages will have 10 minute shows. Mr. Swinnen will handle traffic control. Mr. Nassar said that three banners will be hung around the city. The site plan will be available to members next week. The Festival Committee will meet on Monday, April 24 at 4:00. HIC members were encouraged to attend.

IV. New Business

- A. Work Plan 2011-2012 revision—the HIC work plan was distributed. Mr. Nassar stated that with Mrs. Sizemore leaving, the Council is not as functional as it was. If there is no true participation in the near future, then activities need to be cut down. If the activities are not of value, then there is no need to continue the HIC the way we know it. Members reviewed the work plan to determine which activities could be removed to make the Council functional:
 - i. Spring Fest - HMA has a staff to work on it whereas the HIC does not. Lisë Swensson and Marion Love co-chaired the meetings this year. Dr. Love said it is impossible for her to take major leadership on future Spring Fests. Mr. Nassar said that if necessary, the HIC can put its efforts into other activities. Mr. Moore commented that the HIC has a history with Spring Fest. Mr. Swinnen stated that the foreign entities could take on more responsibility. Mr. Nassar added that the way it is now, it is not manageable with a few people. The concept will have to change. Mr. Swinnen said the HIC gets a lot of exposure with some of the other activities. Other ideas were discussed and it was agreed that the concept of Spring Fest will have to change if it is to continue.
 - ii. Mr. Nassar asked if **Pangea Model UN** can it be done without HIC. Dr. Love said HIC did less this year. Pangea Model UN is moving strongly forward and Lenoir-Rhyne is doing a lot. Mr. Crawford said Model UN will continue to grow but the participation of HIC is important. This year HIC provided the speaker.

- iii. **HIC Grant**—in the past, the grant of \$1,000 has been awarded to the Hickory High School foreign language department, Torn From Home, and this year to international movies.
- iv. **Community Connections** doesn't take a lot of effort.
- v. **Community Conversations—Great Decisions** doesn't take a lot of time prior to the event.

Mr. Nassar reiterated that it is logical to change the concept of the HIC or it will be very difficult to continue. The issue of Spring Fest will be further discussed at one of the upcoming meetings.

V. Next Meeting: May 19, 2011

VI. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Patty Williams, MMC
Minutes Clerk