



GHIC Monthly Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2025

PBML 1st Floor Meeting Room

5:30pm – 6:30pm

I. Welcome and Introduction of guests

The meeting started at 5:35pm.

In attendance were Steven Chuang, Ed Tashjian, Hani Nassar, Eric Brandon, Eddie Marlowe, Tracey Trimble, Nancy Greiner, Anne-Sophie DaCosta, and Youth Council members Anthem Avangeline, Connor Dowdle and Ella Sprinkle.

II. GHIC financials (as of 2/19/25)

- a. General Bank account (BofA checking): \$11,712.79
- b. RWISA Bank account (BofA checking): \$1,372.24
- c. RWISA Business CD (First Horizon): \$20,000.00
- d. RWISA Bank account (First Horizon checking) \$110.00
- e. City account assigned to GHIC: \$11,700 (7/1/24 – 6/30/25)
- f. Expenses through 2/19/25: \$10,106.64

III. Old Business

- a. **International Christmas Concert** 2024 expenses: The GHIC spent \$1200 for live streaming, \$1358 for rental fees (Salt Block), \$250 for the WPS Youth Symphony, and \$107 for piano tuning.
- b. **RWISA**: Donna Wright nominated Centro Latino to receive the \$1000 scholarship and a plaque, which will be presented on **May 6 at 6pm at City Hall. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.**
- c. **GHIC shirts**: a few members haven't ordered their shirts yet. You can spend up to \$50 for tees, polos or long-sleeve shirts bearing the GHIC logo. Here is the **LINK to order**: <https://ghichky.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>
- d. **Hickory FC** promotion update: We confirmed our \$1000 commitment for the upcoming season. Nancy is spearheading this new GHIC sponsorship effort.
- e. **Llamas de Hickory**: We agreed to an amount of \$600 to sponsor the team/games. There are 6 games played at the Crawdads during the season.
- f. **Great Decisions** Discussions remaining sessions:
 - Feb 25, 2025: International Cooperation on Climate Change
 - Mar 4, 2025: The Future of NATO and European Security
 - Mar 11, 2025: AI and American National Security
 - Mar 18, 2025: American Foreign Policy in the Middle East
- g. **STEMTREK** April 15-17 2025: We need volunteers for this event. Hani will send a survey to see who is available and when. **See accompanying PDF for schedule and more information.**
- h. **GHIC brochure**: Connor and Ella presented us with their mockup for a new GHIC rack card.
- i. **Western Piedmont Sister Cities Association**: tabled for now.
- j. **GHIC business cards**: The following individuals requested new Business Cards: Eddie, Connor, Nancy, Anthem, Ella, Steven, and Hani. The following individuals did not request new business cards: Eric, Anne-Sophie, Ed, and Tracey.

IV. New Business

- a. **CORNING Foundation grant**: Corning sent confirmation that we can apply for a \$5000 grant. Application is open from February through May. If received, a portion of it will be used to support TEDx Catawba.
- b. **TEDxCatawba** will be held June 14, 2025 from 9am to 3pm at the Drendel Auditorium. The 12 selected speakers will be announced next week. The license is for unlimited attendance. The GHIC should be getting some tickets when they are available.
- c. **AnandaRasa**: you can read the [project report](#) here. This could be a potential RWISA candidate.
- d. We approved a \$500 grant **for Southwest Primary and Longview Elementary's Multicultural Night**. See accompanying grant application for details.

V. Adjourn

There being no more topics of discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.

Anne-Sophie DaCosta, recorder

Next meeting is on March 20, 2025 **starting at 6:00pm** in the 1st floor meeting room of the PBML.

Greater Hickory International Council

Mission Statement

"The mission of the Greater Hickory International Council is to act as a forum for the local and global international community and to act as a liaison between that community and the local governments in order to promote goodwill, mutual understanding, cooperation, education, and respect among citizens."