



GHIC Monthly Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2025

Hickory Furniture Mart

5:30pm – 6:30pm

I. Welcome and Introduction of guests

The meeting started at 5:30pm.

In attendance were Hani Nassar, Ed Tashjian, Eric Brandon, Eddie Marlowe, Tracey Trimble, and Youth Council members Connor Dowdle and Anthem Avangeline.

II. GHIC financials (as of 4/17/25)

- a. General Bank account (BofA checking): \$11,212.79
- b. RWISA Bank account (BofA checking): \$1,372.28
- c. RWISA Business CD (First Horizon): \$20,000.00. Matures 6/24/25
- 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 4/17/25: \$10,647.20

III. Old Business

- a. RWISA – Gianella Romero will replace JoAnn Spees in accepting the RWISA Award for Centro Latino. Tracey presented different plaque designs. Settled on a walnut plaque. Settled on the content. Ed will purchase a large dry-erase check for photos. **PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND the award presentation on May 6 at 6pm at City Hall.**
- b. GHIC shirts: Hani will pick up the ordered shirts and bring them to the May meeting. Hani stated that the store will close on 4/29 but will be reopened.
- c. Hickory FC promotion: Nancy is in France. Extensive discussion on the design. Decision is to simplify it. Deluxe Printing will help design the autograph card. A GHIC table is planned at the game on May 28. Tracey will check with Hickory FC.
- d. Llamas de Hickory: No change. GHIC is contributing \$500 for 6 games (April 11, April 23, May 20, July 6, August 9 and August 21 at 7pm) – Setting up a GHIC table is optional.
- e. STEM TREK (April 15-17 2025): The event ended earlier today with reasonable participation from schools but not the job fair. Must rethink the job fair approach next time.
- f. GHIC brochure: Connor had two recommendations: Add more flags and capitalization of our programs. Examples of flags are Mexican, Romanian, German, Guatemalan, & Hmong flags. Connor to make changes.
- g. GHIC business cards: Need to include a QR code for the GHIC website. Requesting cards are Eddie, Connor, Nancy, Anthem, Ella, Steven, and Hani. Not requesting cards are Eric, Anne-Sophie, Ed, and Tracey.)
- h. Corning Foundation Grant: We need to apply for \$5,000 by the end of May. Hani & Ed to get together by the next meeting.
- i. TEDxCatawba (June 14, 2025 from 9am to 3pm at the Drendel Auditorium): Requesting free tickets are Ed and Tracey. Others to let me know.
- j. Model United Nations: Eric will talk to Colin Barrett who is the Principal at University Christian H.S. to see if there is interest. Manpower and recruiters may be a problem.

- k. GHIC Grant – Nashville in the Carolinas: Eddie stated that one or more individuals will have an international background. Tracey indicated that reaching the international community via a Spanish flyer (for example) is important. After some discussion, we approved the grant for \$500.
- l. GHIC grant – Sister Cities in Altenburg: Tracey explained the schedule. 28 delegates are scheduled to travel, mainly composed of the Hickory Music Factory and the Morganton Jam (Junior Appalachian Musicians). These groups will perform NC traditional music. The grant that is being requested is to pay for the children's general expenses. The board approved \$600, i.e. \$100 for each student.

IV. New Business

- a. Hani received the final report from the Multicultural night (Southwest /Longview) which met the requirements.
- b. Hani received an email from Adrienne Lowman at the Hickory Ballet and performing Arts asking if we would be interested in an annual partnership.

V. Adjourn

There being no more topics of discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Hani Nassar, recorder

Next meeting is on May 22, 2025 at 5:30pm in the 2nd 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."