



- I. Welcome & Introductions: Meeting started at 5:40pm.
 1. Bella Hazboun (Junior at UCHS) was introduced.
 2. Attending in person were Eric, Tracey, Ed T, & Hani
 3. Attending virtually were Sal & Bella Hazboun, Linda, Steven, and Anne-Sophie.
- II. GHIC financials
 1. Bank account balance: \$16,228.84.
 2. City account: \$11,700 (2022 – 2023 budget allocation)
- III. Old Business
 1. YIFF: 437 films were submitted prior to the deadline of June 1, 2022. 222 films were submitted after the deadline. 78 films are left to be judged. Each of us needs to consider watching 10 films so that we can be done within one week. Show time is Wednesday September 21, 6pm – 8pm. The final selection will be about 1h 45min. A virtual option will be available after the show. We discussed bringing in some international food but this is not yet confirmed. Hani will check.
 2. Rudy Wright International Service Award: Tracey stated that Donna committed to \$5,000 in seed money. The Hickory Furniture Mart will donate \$1,000. If we include the left-over City money from last year, the total seed money so far is \$8,357.50. We also have a list of individuals who supported Rudy that we can tap into. The application is ready on the GHIC website. We will start collecting applications in January. Students and young adults need to be seriously considered. The award will be announced in April and awarded in early May.
 3. GHIC website: Website looks good. Ed asked for the members to always be on the look for improvements, corrections, or additions.
 4. Dego Goncalves: DG 4 Business: 10-min presentation on opportunities to bring foreign businesses to Brazil and to promote Brazilian paper wood cellulose products in the U.S. The goal is to establish some business investments in NC, particularly in this area. The topics were: Nearshoring and friendly-shoring, the partnership between the US and Brazil (in numbers), and a short video about Brazil. Sal discussed the opportunities to build a manufacturing facility for their products in south of Brazil, which is now operating for over 8 years.
 5. MUN 2023: Eric said that Cindy Combs has only one MUN class in the fall and it is difficult to recruit students to take the lead at the time the MUN program in March. UCHS also asked about MUN but they are not willing to take it on. **Eric stated that he will discuss it with Laura Crawley next week and see if there are other opportunities to keep MUN alive at LR.**
 6. Foothills Kids Magazine advertisement: We will have a foreign country focus each edition and also provide a calendar of international events. **Tracey will try to provide a link or paper copies to the magazine.** The first country focus is Germany. The second is Romania. It is a good advertisement for us.
 7. Newcomers of Catawba Valley. Paid a small sponsorship (\$35). They will give us a feature in September in their newsletter to plug in the film festival. Flyer is not practical for this group.
 8. Great Decisions: Sep 6 through Nov 1 @ LR Library Colloquium Room. For more information visit the Great Decisions page on the HIC website <https://hickoryinternationalcouncil.com/2022-great-decision-discussion-series/>
 9. International Christmas Dinner: Steven requested that the GHIC should pay for the Christmas dinner for the GHIC Advisory Board. **Hani to think about it.**
 10. International Christmas Concert: Event is planned for December 17 in the Drendel Auditorium. Ed will check on the reservation.

11. GHIC Subcommittees: The subcommittees need to meet between meetings. If it means that the full HIC committee should meet every other month instead of every month, then this might be what we might have to do.
- IV. New Business
 1. Honorary Council Event: Tentative plan is for November 3 at the Belk Centrum. All honorary councils of NC will be invited. This will be post the High Point Furniture Market.
 - V. Adjourn: The next meeting is planned for September 15, 2022. Place TBD. There not being any further discussion items, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.

Recorder: Hani Nassar

*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.”