



Virtual link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8572551059?pwd=dkhFakJzbnNOOFJuMzVxS2hPdng0Zz09>

- I. Welcome and introductions
  1. The meeting started at 5:35pm.
  2. In attendance were Tracey, Anne-Sophie, Lucas, Steven, Caroline, Eric, Ed, Eddie, Jenny, and Hani.
- II. GHIC financials:
  1. BofA:
    - i. Bank account (general): \$12,357.38
      1. Olde Hickory Station \$246.80 (lunch NC Honorary Consul)
      2. Panera Bread \$77.72 (coffee NC Honorary Consul)
    - ii. Bank account (RWISA): \$9,357.63
    - iii. Total \$21,715.01
  2. City account \$11,700
- III. Old Business
  1. Youth International Film Festival 2023
    - i. The FilmFreeway site for the 2023 event was launched in early October. We have already received several submissions. Each submission has a charge of \$5.00
  2. Rudy Wright International Service Award
    - i. A check from Benefit Solutions Inc. was received for \$1,000.
  3. GHIC Subcommittees:
    - i. Even though the committees may not be meeting in person or virtually, certain individuals are getting the job done on their own. We are thankful for that but we think that the subcommittee members should be involved.
  4. GHIC website:
    - i. **The immediate needed changes are the grant cycle dates (Jul 1 – Dec 31 and Jan 1 – Jun 30). Also, the Great Decisions dates for 2023 have been confirmed for Jan 31, 2023 – March 21**
  5. Foothills Kids Magazine December issue (Tracey)
    - i. Romania will be featured in December when the new issue is released.
    - ii. **We need to contemplate the country for the spring edition. Hani to check with Folkmoot to verify if they will be moving forward with international group invitations next year, and if so, which ones.**
  6. NC Honorary Consul post-Event (Tracey)
    - i. Participants were Guatemala, Mexico, United Kingdom, Nicaragua, Japan, Spain, Belgium, and Germany. Others were Catherine Hansen (Chief of Protocol), and Cristina Espana (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion).
    - ii. Visited Century plant #3 in the morning
    - iii. The public forum at 2pm was not well attended by LR or community members, but the discussion topics were very interesting.
    - iv. GHIC voted unanimously (motion by Hani, seconded by Edward) to pick up the cost of the photographer (Pat Appleton) for up to \$750. **Hani to negotiate down with Pat since the initial invoice before some changes were made was \$450.**
    - v. GHIC already spent \$246.80 for lunch and \$77.72 for coffee.
  7. Christmas dinner:
    - i. Survey results were FOURK for dinner on Monday 12/12 at 6pm for 15 attendees.

- ii. There is a minimum food charge for the back room at FOURK for \$750. **Hani to reach out to FOURKE to see if they can waive this charge.**
  - 8. Great Decisions Discussions 2023
    - i. To discuss the topics while they are more current, the group decided to start the program early next year (January 31, 2023 – March 21, 2023). Place is currently planned for the Colloquium Room in the LR Rudisill Library.
  - 9. International Christmas Concert December 17, 2022
    - i. 6pm – 8pm in the Drendel Auditorium
    - ii. To be followed by Romanian food in the Moretz Board room and hallway.
  - 10. STEMTrek 2023: April 1, 2023
    - i. To take place at the Catawba Science Center from 10am – 3pm.
    - ii. There are plans to invite the Oak Ridge National Lab in 2024.
  - 11. TEDxHickory: April 22, 2023 at the Belk Centrum
    - i. Currently 24 speaker applications have been submitted.
  - 12. Hickory Ballet & Performing Arts International Dance Day April 29, 2023
    - i. **Anne-Sophie to contact Adrienne Lowman and Leanna Bodnar to verify what support they need from us.**
- IV. New Business
- 1. The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Western Piedmont Sister Cities Association (WPSCA) will take place in March 2023. A time capsule is planned along with a proclamation. More details to follow.
- V. Adjourn
- 1. There being no more topics for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm.

Hani Nassar, recorder

*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.”***