



- I. Welcome and introductions
 1. The meeting started at 5:33 pm.
 2. In attendance were Lucas, Eric, Caroline, Jenny, Tracey, Ed, Hani, and Anne-Sophie.
- II. GHIC financials:
 1. BofA:
 - i. Bank account (general): \$9,904.26
 - ii. Bank account (RWISA): \$9,357.87
 2. City account \$11,700
- III. Old Business
 1. Rudy Wright International Service Award (one submission) – the attending members did not think it meets the intent of the award
 2. GHIC Subcommittees
 - i. **Don't forget to update the information [ON THE GOOGLE DRIVE](#) (←click here)!**
 3. GHIC website (updates)
 - i. Ed added a blog to the website and a page dedicated to Centro Latino
 - ii. Tracey mentions minor changes need to be made to the Sister City info, and broken links for some of the international companies
 - iii. Tracey mentions a new Italian company will be opening in Newton (pasta manufacturer) in an old recycling place, next year or in 2025
 - iv. Ashley Bolick may help to update Caldwell County companies
 - v. Tracey suggests putting events from other community resources on our calendar as well, but it may be too time consuming (would need to be continually maintained)

UPDATE FROM TRACEY ON FEB. 17, INCLUDED HERE AS IT CONTAINS **FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**: Nathan Huret sent me some changes to the Catawba County firms, contacts and emails. I asked him to add the new Italian pasta packing firm and any others he may know about. I also sent this to Ashley Bolick, the new Economic Director at the Caldwell County EDC, Hope Hopkins, Director at the Burke County EDC and Connie Kincaid who works at the Alexander County EDC. I will send you back a final updated version once I hear back from all of them, but I thought maybe **Jenny, Lucas and Caroline might want to share this list with Dave to see if any of these international firms would want to participate in their job fair.** Would be a great tie into their work with us.

4. Foothills Kids Magazine
 - i. Next magazine will be issued in May before kids are out of school for the summer
5. Great Decisions Discussions 2023
 - i. 4th session next Tuesday – about 22-25 people come every week
6. STEM Trek 2023: April 1, 2023
 - i. We are getting passports for students and families to use at the event
 - ii. We will have a take-home activity - **We need to come up with an activity to do on site and give a prize at end of event** (drawing the winner's name)
 - iii. Maybe we can use the flags to be found at some stations – tablecloth needs to be dry-cleaned
 - iv. Jenny proposes to have an "international quiz" – we can add a survey at the end of the event with questions

- v. Lucas proposes leaving international “random fun facts” around the venue and have a fill-in-the-blank activity
 - vi. Hani asks for a budget of \$600 for Stem Trek
7. TEDxHickory: April 22, 2023
 - i. Hani sent a letter to Pepsi to get funds for several events (including TEDx) at once
 - ii. **Hani invites everyone on the board to attend!**
 8. Hickory Ballet & Performing Arts International Dance Day April 29, 2023
 9. Folkmoot
 - i. Evan Hatch hasn’t confirmed yet that the event will come to Hickory
 - ii. The event will be at the end of July and will last 4 days
 10. Appropriation Request
 - i. Was submitted to the City for next year’s funding; Hani asked for \$13,000
- IV. New Business
1. GHIC Bylaws / Corporate Book
 - i. Hani met with Henry Morphis (corporate lawyer) and provided him with everything related to the incorporation of the nonprofit (bylaws, articles of incorporation, etc.) Hani has to send a letter formally adding Ed and Anne-Sophie to documentation.
 - ii. We need to have a retreat every year to serve as our Annual Meeting (mandatory)
 2. GHIC Retreat / Annual Meeting
 - i. **We have to decide on a date in May - Saturday morning preferably. Hani will send a poll.**
 - ii. Jenny will be gone at the end of May. Lucas and Caroline may stay another year.
 3. GHIC grants
 - i. We received two proposals. We need to decide how much to allocate. **Hani sent a poll to vote on the proposals by Tuesday February 21**
 4. Youth Council monthly update
 - i. Jenny mentions the Teen Job Fair. Event at CVCC on March 28, for teenagers/high schoolers looking for jobs. In partnership with Catawba Youth Council.
 - ii. Tracey asked for the list of businesses already signed up to participate in the event.
 5. Other
 - i. The WPSCA YAAS competition event was posted on FB: Young Artists and Authors Showcase (YAAS) is an annual competition that encourages youth worldwide to express the mission of Sister Cities International through digital artwork, original artwork, literature, photography, and music. Submissions are centered around an annual theme and judged based on originality, composition, and theme interpretation. This year’s theme is *“Peace by Piece...Food Security in my Community”*.
- V. Adjourn
1. There being no more topics of discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Anne-Sophie DaCosta, 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.”