



- I. The meeting started at 5:30pm. In attendance were Britnee Bensing, Eric Brandon, Ed Tashjian, Tracey Trimble, and Hani Nassar.
- II. GHIC financials (as of 2/14/24)
  1. Bank account (general): \$8,105.74
  2. Bank account (RWISA): \$18,718.08
  3. City account assigned to GHIC: \$11,700 (7/1/23 – 6/30/24)
  4. Expenses through 2/14/24: \$9,339.31
- III. Old Business
  1. International Christmas Concert 2024: Discussed the various options with the RBC Choir and came up with the decision to sell free tickets for an early show (probably 5:30pm start). If we sell out a month or more prior to the event, we will add another show for a 7:30pm start.
  2. RWISA grant:
    - a. The preferred option by different financial advisors (Landon Lane, Bryan Setzler) is the VTI Vanguard Total Stock Market Exchange Traded Funds (ETF), currently offering over 5.0% interest with no set up costs.
  3. TEDxHickory 2024: We will not have a TEDxHickory this year.
  4. STEM Trek 2024 / STEM Tennis: An International Innovation Kit is provided courtesy of the GHIC as a take-home exercise.
  5. Llamas de Hickory at the Crowdads: First game is April 13. Should have a set-up.
  6. International Week at LR: ??
  7. Challenger Early College High School International Festival: To take place on March 23. We need to be present. Britnee is leading this effort.
  8. International Film Festival: We need to be back in the schools for this event to have an impact. Attendance at the HCT was very limited as compared to the effort we put.
- IV. New Business
  1. Creative Catawba Survey: The survey that was launched last week has the following objectives: Identifying a broader definition of arts (science, history, humanities), achieving a stronger cultural leadership, stronger organizations, providing cultural activities for ALL residents, developing adequate facilities, supporting all creatives, providing arts education, and ensuring funding.
  2. Other: There were no other topics for discussion.
- V. Adjourn: The meeting concluded at 6:35pm.

Recorder: Hani Nassar, acting Secretary

***Greater Hickory International Council  
Mission Statement***

***The mission of the Greater Hickory International Council is to promote goodwill, cultural awareness, cooperation, education, and mutual respect through partnerships and community events.***