

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

This is Susanne's first meeting as commission chair. She accepted a check from John McBee representing the German American Club for \$200.00 which will be deposited into the donation account. She mentioned that she delivered thank you notes to the Bread Basket and the German Café since they helped to sell the remaining NOELL supplies.

REVIEW OF CITY COUNCIL ACTIONS – Hank Huisking

Hank said the city council was impressed with the Buena Sister Cities Club's presentation about their exchange trip to Radebeul.

She would like Heike Shockley to attend the February 26th city council meeting so she can be officially thanked for her service to this commission.

Construction of a multipurpose path is going on by Julio Cesar and Highway 90. This was funded through a grant from AZDOT.

The digital sign code will come before the council for review on the 12th of March

The first of five cell towers is going in at the Transit Center. These towers are built to look like palms.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Victoria Yarbrough

Victoria reiterated that the BHS Sister Cities Club members did a great job with their presentation to council. They showed what they learned and the educational value of the exchange trip to Radebeul.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Commission Vacancy – Susanne Himstedt-Gilbert

The commission still has one vacancy.

2. 2015 Student Exchange from Radeheul to Sierra Vista – Susanne Himstedt-Gilbert

The students arrive in Tucson at 7:35 p.m. on April 8th and depart at 3:30 p.m. on April 24th. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the various activities the students will participate in while they are here. Susanne will schedule a meeting at her house to finalize the itinerary.

3. Treasurer's Report – Randi Buros

The balance in the checking account to date is \$4,641.55. Wells Fargo charges a \$14.00 per month service fee for this account. Randi is going to check with other banks to see if he can get a better rate.

4. Cananea Outreach

Susanne has made a new contact. She will invite Mrs. Valdez to the March meeting. Heike would like to get rid of the clothing and backpacks she has in her garage. Since the issue of getting these things across the border still exists, it was suggested that perhaps these items should be donated to a local charity.

5. Buena Sister Cities Club Updates – Susan Raymond

Susan said that interest in the club has dwindled lately. Only seven or so students have come to the last few meetings. The students who travelled to Germany will be making their presentation during the school board meeting on March 2nd. Megan Sanders said the club members are working on fundraisers. Working at Vinny's Pizza or Peter Pipers Pizza and holding a car wash are some of the fundraising ideas the students have come up with so far.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Vote on John McBee's New Member Application – Susanne Himstedt-Gilbert

John McBee was present and spoke about his background and why he is interested in serving on this commission.

Randi Buros made a motion to recommend John be appointed to the commission. Lourdes Montoya-Murphy seconded the motion.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

The motion carried. His appointment recommendation will be on the city council agenda of February 26th.

2. Discussion on Interest in Establishing Sister City Clubs at Tombstone and Bisbee High Schools – Susanne Himstedt-Gilbert

The interest in the Sister City Club at Buena has waned recently. Susanne would like to open the exchange to these two schools. Hank said someone would have to meet with the principals to see if there would be interest in forming a club at these schools and if they could get a teacher sponsor for the clubs. Susanne said that Karin Finney would be willing to make these contacts.

3. Discussion on Commission participation at the Diversity Fair and West End Fair – Susanne Himstedt-Gilbert

Susanne asked if the members wanted to sell food at the Diversity Fair on 3.7.15 and the West End Fair on 5.2.15. There was some discussion as to the kind of food to sell. It was decided to pay \$25.00 to vend Mexican food at the Diversity Fair and to sell bratwurst at the West End Fair.

**4. Discussion on Commission Suggestions for the New Strategic Leadership Plan
– Victoria Yarbrough**

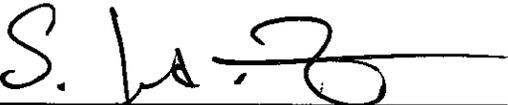
The handout stated this goal: Create an environment where arts, humanities, and cultural activities flourish. Victoria asked in what context the commission could further this goal. She said this will be on next month's agenda for discussion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS OF COMMISSIONERS

Hank said the commission will give their presentation to city council on April 13th at 5 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Susanne Hilstedt-Gilbert, Chairperson