

NEW BUSINESS (State Conference)

1. Discussion on Friday gathering at the University of Arizona South Observatory- Michael Boardman

Michael said that the LRC (Learning Resource Center) is available Friday night and is reserved in the commission's name. The U of A South foundation supports opening the observatory and the astronomy club will present a talk and escort people around. The bad news is that they will not serve alcohol at either location. Chuck Smith, the director of finance, said absolutely not at the LRC. The observatory isn't big enough for everyone, but Michael may be able to talk them into allowing an exception. Melody Buckner sent an alcohol event exception request form when he contacted her for help. The University requires that the alcohol be served by a licensed bartender or organization and they must be on file with the University. The foundation has used La Casita in the past to provide beer and wine via drink tickets. Everyone would receive two as to prevent excess. Michael said that he's been told that La Casita is no longer on record with the University. The form Michael was given by Melody only applies to University affiliated requestors. Michael also looked into Pueblo Del Sol Country Club Golf Resort and Hummingbird Grill. Gwen suggested that if the commission chooses that location that they ask the astronomy club to bring telescopes. Michael said that there's too much light pollution, but maybe they can do a presentation. If the commission can find a member to request the room it will be free instead of \$200. He looked into their catering as well. John said it would have to end at 10pm. Michael said that a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres are doable pricewise, especially if the commission does not have to pay the room rental. Irma asked if the venue is large enough for a performance. Michael said yes and it fits 120 people. Gwen asked when the commission would need to make a decision. Michael said he already reserved both, just in case. He thinks PDS would be much easier. The University would also require arm bands and a chain link fenced area, etc. for alcohol if they even approve the request for an exception. John suggested busing people from PDS to the observatory. Gwen would like to ask the club to come to PDS first. Michael will talk to Ted Forte tonight. Tours could be offered at the observatory on Saturday instead as well as at the garden there. Michael suggested a 6pm starting time at the country club. He said the dining room would be open for anyone that wants full dinner. Michael said that Mayor Mueller mentioned that no one has talked to him about the event, but he is expecting to be invited to speak. Gwen said she will take care of the invite.

2. Discussion on Saturday sessions at Cochise College Sierra Vista Campus- Judy Hector

John said he has a catering guide for Cochise College. The one large room will be \$400. The second small room (Horace Steel) will be \$95 for breakout sessions. Judy has not heard back from anyone as far as hotels yet. She initially asked about 80 rooms. John said that only 60 would be needed. He also found out that the Windamere is still an option. Judy can make phone calls if the commission will pick a hotel. Lauren volunteered to call around. John will talk to the Windamere. Lauren will ask for a 60-80 person block of rooms and rates. For breakfast, Ms. Watts at the College recommended \$9 per person for fruit, pastries, coffee, water and juice for 25 people. Judy also mentioned a yogurt bar option plus coffee that would be paid based on usage. John also looked into catering for Friday night at the German Café. Michael suggested that they cater lunch on Saturday instead. Judy said that Cochise won't allow that. They recommend the "Box Lunch".

3. Discussion on catering- Lauren Giamalis

Lauren said that Texas Roadhouse would be willing to donate food, but Gwen said that, at this point, the commission will probably just go with PDS. John motioned to officially select Pueblo Del Sol to host the Friday night gathering. Lauren seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. John motioned to officially select Cochise College to host the sessions on Saturday. Irma seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Gwen asked when the mayor should speak and thought that Saturday was probably better. John recommended Friday so that he could greet the other mayors. Judy will do invites now. Gwen asked if the mayor should be at both parts of the event. John asked about city buses from the hotels and back. Paris said she will talk to Donna and Victoria.

4. Discussion on charges for attendees

Judy thought she remembered the last conference costing \$60-\$75. John asked if the commissioners should pay as well and if invitees like the mayors, pay too. Michael discussed the potential costs that would need to be recouped including the rooms, food, invites and entertainment. Judy let the commission know that the city probably won't absorb costs such as postage. Potential costs per person ranging from \$15-\$28 per person for 50 people, pending decisions about bands and donations. Michael said to remember that the state organization is giving the commission \$400. John and Michael discussed splitting the charges for Friday and Saturday for those that wouldn't attend both, like spouses. Judy and Gwen suggested that the commission not utilize the Alma Dolores dancers. Michael and John were against hiring a band for music. Irma remembered Milt recommending local entertainment. Lauren said that the astronomy club counts as local entertainment.

5. Discussion on other State Conference topics

Gwen mentioned that there will be lots of little details to delegate and pay for. Michael created a spreadsheet for those types of costs, such as name tags. Michael said that Susanne told him the City would take care of all the admin and support stuff. Michael said he thinks responsibilities should be assigned and said he will send an email to Paris to distribute with a list of the things he came up with. Then everyone can volunteer for various jobs. Gwen suggested that the commission do something at the conference for Milt, such as a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS OF COMMISSIONERS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Irma Valdez, Acting Vice-Chairperson