

Agenda for November 7, 2012

Hayward-Ghazni Friendship City Partnership/ Sister City Committee
Room 4A Hayward City Hall

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes (also minutes from July)

Treasurer's Report

- NorCal Conference Fundraising for our committee
- Establishing a Herat/San Jose fund
- Update on training of new treasurer
- Latest transfer to Widow's Literacy Program

OLD BUSINESS

1. Evaluating the NorCal Sister City Conference
 - a. Dinner/Reception on Friday evening October 19
 - b. Conference on October 20
2. Discussion about the involvement of the GHFCP committee in the development of other Afghan--NorCal sister cities.
3. Should we proceed with planning our next fundraiser tentatively scheduled for March 7, 2013? At a previous meeting we established the theme *Honoring the History and Culture of Ghazni*.
4. How should we proceed with plans for a trip to Ghazni or Afghanistan in September/October 2013 to participate in the celebrations of Ghazni as the 2013 Asian Center of Islamic Culture?
5. Roots of Peace "Pennies Campaign"

NEW BUSINESS

- Cell phone literacy program—Carol Ruth Silver

MEMBER COMMENTS

FEEDBACK ON MEETING

Next meeting on Wednesday December 5 , 2012, 7 pm in room 4A of City Hall

Meeting called to order 7:12

Attending: Carol Ruth Silver, Rahima Haya, John Gill, Wasi Shayek, Taher Sarwary, Aisha Wahab, Saeid Ansari, Stephanie Spencer, Bruce Green, Arif Yaqubi, Ghazal Noor.

Motion to approve agenda & minutes: move—CR, vote—unanimous

Defer approving agenda & minutes from 9/7 to November 5 meeting. Bruce will bring copies of these for review at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Ghazala Nur—checks received since last deposit \$695; bank statement current balance \$8612.99. Payment for October 19 & 20 event can be made tonight by cash or check. Amount \$45 conference, \$20 for social event on 10/19. At event can be paid by cash, check, or credit card at the door.

OLD BUSINESS

To add comments to the Google doc, put directly into document when signed in. If you put a "+" in front of Bruce's email, then comments are sent as an email. Everyone has commenting privileges, and if you would like editing privileges, Bruce can grant that.

To register online on the form, or by mail with the form on the flyer. Fees from the 10/19 event will benefit the Herat—San Jose committee. The registration fees from the 10/20 conference support the Ghazni-Hayward committee. The silent auction proceeds will be for the benefit of the NorCal Sister Cities committee.

Needed Tasks

Track and acknowledge registrations through the web—Aisha Wahab will do this
Make recommendations and send links for hotels near the conference site—Aisha and Bruce will compile this list.

10/19/12 evening event

Track registrations and communicate the final location and any other details to those attending.

Confirm how large Tahiba Hussaini's home is (Rahima will call her and ask her to confirm this with Bruce)

Herat-San Jose group can provide food, and this can either be donated or the cost of food can be deducted from the \$20 fee from each participant. Mr. Shayek will contact the group to confirm this.

Special Guests—Fariba Nawa, three Afghan professors from San Jose State School of Journalism program (who will need transportation from where they are staying to the events on both days; John Gill can provide this, since he has a van). Khalid Hosseini has been invited. Fariba and the professor from Herat will be the primary speakers.

10/20/12 conference

Tables and other set up will be done on Friday.

Bruce is also arranging help with the continental breakfast service by volunteers from the church.

Nametags: Bruce will print nametags for people who have registered ahead, and there will be someone who can write legible nametags for people who register at the door.

Registration: Hamed will be at the registration when the doors open to take payment and Ghazal will work with him as part of her training.

Marketing the conference—Bruce has sent email announcement to the email list from the NorCal Sister City organization, and this has generated some registrations so far. Aisha and Bruce will work on using the GHFCP Facebook page to set up an event and make the committee members hosts so they can invite their FB contacts. Is it possible to do a PSA on an Afghan local TV station—Saeid will know about this.

Facility set up: Aisha, Saeid and Arif will help with the set up of the facility with a custodian from the church on Friday afternoon after 1:00.

LCD projector: if anyone has one they can lend, please let Bruce know.

Silent auction: if people have items to donate, let Bruce know—he will communicate about how to share the description/photo of the donated items, and how to coordinate the auction.

Display set up: Rahima Haya will help people who bring displays to know where to set them up in the gym where the main ceremonies and keynotes will be.

Breakfast: could have microenterprise of the Afghan Coalition to make the pastries for the breakfast, and also have fruit.

Master of Ceremonies: Bruce will work with the NorCal committee to determine who this should be. Doris Morse is one suggestion, and board members are other candidates.

Program: Bruce will do this

Opening Ceremony: Bruce will work with the SCI committee to arrange this. Boy Scout Troop associated with the church could be part of this.

Special Music & Entertainment: Afghan music would be ideal. Taher will ask Saeid to coordinate this.

Special Presentations & Lunch Ceremony: Some parts will also be organized by other groups. Slides from photos by Arif and other people he knows to make a video clip about Ghazni, Ghazni-Hayward, and Herat that could include music. This could also be presented during the lunch.

Keynote: Bruce has suggested that Mary Kane talk about implications of Arab Spring and other developments in the Muslim world to sister cities, e.g., how sister cities can be part of healing and cross-cultural understanding. There is a special emphasis on partnerships between Muslim countries and the U.S. within Sister Cities Int'l. The decision will be up to Ms. Kane.

Workshops: Some proposed workshops could be combined if needed. The SCI Board came up with these topics, and board members and the host SC need to make sure that each of the workshops has leaders.

1. Afghan Sister Cities—will be handled by GHFCP. Herat-San Jose Sister City group will also contribute. There is information set up at www.heratsistercity.org about this partnership and educational information about Herat. Dr. Qayoumi could suggest someone who could help to lead this from the Herat-San Jose group. Could also have other leaders from Afghan communities in Bay Area. Dr. Mojaddedi is one possibility, journalism professor from Herat also could be on a panel. Mr. Sarwary knows someone who could participate. Need others from other Afghan cities—Mazar-i-Sharif, Ghazni, Kabul?
 - a. A subcommittee of Afghans on the GHFCP can recruit from their contacts.
2. Social networking for SCs—could be led by Aisha (could also be combined with Youth and SCs, if needed).
3. Youth and SCs—Bruce will contact Debbie
4. International Trade benefits to SCs—Frank (SCI board member) will be the leader. If there are others who would be good leaders, could also create a panel.
5. Protocols in receiving international guests—Rona Popal could be invited. Bill Hinkle could moderate this panel/discussion. Stephanie Spencer could moderate this panel/discussion. Could we create a template of types of questions to learn about a group being hosted, and then have some specific examples from people who have been hosts and hosted.

LUNCH

Could designate tables for each workshop at lunch to continue conversations or meet leaders and participants of workshops they aren't able to attend. Caterer has been chosen.

2. 2013 GHFCP Fundraiser: Defer further discussion to November meeting.
3. 2013 Ghazni trip: need to wait for additional information for further discussions about the timing of the trip. January opening ceremonies could be a possible time to go.
4. Defer discussion to November meeting or later.

Member comments

Idea from John Gill: An organized poetry reading could be something the Herat committee could sponsor that would raise Herat group's visibility in San Jose, and encourage participation. He would be willing to help organize this with others from Herat.

Good meeting from Carol Ruth and Rahima.

Motion to adjourn Mr. Sarwary, unanimous at 9:04.