

## **Agenda for January 9, 2013**

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

### **Approval of Agenda**

### **Approval of Minutes**

### **Treasurer's Report**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Fundraising options for 2013 (brainstorming session)
  - a. Mail/email direct appeal
  - b. Special projects (like trip to Afghanistan for Ghazni 2013)
  - c. Partnerships (like with Roots of Peace, other Sister City group)
  - d. Fundraising event(s)
  
2. 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?
  - a. Security situation (current and projected)
  - b. Review of draft letter to Governor Musa Khan
  
3. Report on progress on formation of San Jose/Herat Sister City relationship.
  - a. Taiba Hosseini (new board member of NorCal Sister Cities)
  - b. Jan 12 meeting of NorCal SCI committee.
  - c. Correspondence with Herat contacts (State Dept. and Herat citizens)
  - d. Comments on documentary from Afghan singer Shafiq Mureed

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Cell phone literacy program—Carol Ruth Silver
- Schedule of HGSCC meetings for 2013

### **MEMBER COMMENTS**

### **FEEDBACK ON MEETING**

**Next meeting on Wednesday February 6, 2013, 7 pm in room 4A of City Hall**

## Minutes for November 7, 2012

### Hayward-Ghazni Friendship City Partnership/ Sister City Committee

Room 4A Hayward City Hall

Convened 7:07

Attending: Stephanie Spencer, Abdul Manan, Rahima Haya, Bruce Green, Councilman Mark Salinas stopped by, Taiba Hosseini (also board member of Northern California Sister Cities Association), Humaira Ghilzai by phone, Carol Ruth Silver by phone.

#### Approval of Agenda

Add report of conversation with Fatima by Humaira to the Treasurer's Report.

Motion by Humaira, Approved by all

#### Approval of Minutes (also minutes from July)

Motion by Stephanie, Approved by 5, 1 abstention

#### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer unable to attend due to a family emergency and at time of NorCal Conference Treasurer in Training wasn't able to attend due to a family emergency. Bruce reported in Treasurer's absence. The committee expressed thanks to Bruce for all of the work that he put into organizing the conference and associated events, and also for the funds that were raised for the committee's work through the conference.

NorCal 2012 Conference Financial Summary	
<b>Income:</b>	
Deposit 10-12 (checks only)	\$695
Deposit 10-22 (checks and cash)	\$1,181
Square Inc (credit card payments)	\$744
Cash (in addition to 10-22 deposit)	\$100
Still due: (checks coming, not yet deposited)	\$690
refund (for mis-charged credit card)	(\$115)
Total	\$3,295
Expenses: (primarily for food services)	(\$960)
Balance	\$2,335
Donation for Herat SC:	(\$500)
Total for HGSCC	\$1,835

#### Bank of America Information

Current balance in Account: \$ 9,006.93 as of 11/7/2012

Includes latest transfer to Fatima for women's literacy program

cash withdrawal on 10/22 \$1,251.00

Western Union fee \$21.00

Total received by Fatima: \$1,230.00

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- NorCal Conference Fundraising for our committee
  - \$1835 raised, and \$690 promised but still not received
- Establishing a Herat/San Jose fund—could be set up as a sub-account of GHFCP
  - Suggestion to set up a separate fund with the \$500 donation. GHFCP would be the fiscal agent until they have their own bank account set up. Donations could be made to the Herat-San Jose start-up through this fund. Their fund would be reported on by our Treasurer. We would be willing to provide this function for a limited amount of time and we can refer them to other organizations for assistance in setting up their organization (e.g., Afghan Coalition or Afghan American Chamber of Commerce)
    - *We agree to receive funds designated for the Herat-San Jose Sister City Formation Committee as a special fund within the GHFCP bank account (to be reported monthly at the Committee meetings) for a period of six months, and that for this period of time a representative of the Herat-San Jose formation committee attend the Ghazni-Hayward Friendship City Partnership meetings. If after six months the Herat-San Jose Sister City has not been formed as a separate organization, the funds in our account will become the property of the Ghazni Hayward committee to be used in our Ghazni projects.*

Stephanie moved, Taiba seconded, approved by all.

- Update on training of new treasurer—will continue when Treasurer is available
- Latest transfer to Widow's Literacy Program
  - Transfer to Fatima made immediately after the conference on 10/22, receipt confirmed by Fatima in conversation with Humaira. This transfer was a little late, so Fatima had used some Afghan Friends Network funds to pay the teachers, and this has been paid back with our transfer.
  - She recently met with the Ghazni Governor, who had complained that the GHFCP committee had not been in touch with him or done anything for his office. He took her on a tour of preparations for the Ghazni 2013.
    - It would be appropriate for Bruce to send a letter to the Governor to express our continued attention to the Widows Literacy program and our hope to attend some of the Ghazni 2013 events. Could also mention other activities we've been involved in here—visit of Mr. Massoudi, supporting the foundation of another sister city (Herat-San Jose). This can be in English since the governor speaks English and the letter is from Bruce. We could scan the letter and send it to Fatima for her to deliver. (Could also contact the Asia Foundation for contact information for the governor.) Bruce will circulate a draft of the letter for comment before sending it.
  - Mayor has been fired for taking bribes, and someone else has been appointed.

The Asia Foundation is bringing the Director of the Ghazni Museum, Mr. Massoudi, to San Francisco for training in museum management at the Asian Art Museum. The Asia Foundation is organizing several events, and has

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asked the local Afghan community to organize some kind of event for him to meet more members of the committee—probably the Afghan Coalition would be the best candidate to do this. Some invitations will be coming from the Asia Foundation to attend the events they organize.

Motion by Humaira to continue to support the Ghazni Hayward Friendship City's Widows Literacy Program in 2013. Passed unanimously.

- Humaira will take responsibility to prompt the treasurer to transfer funds.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Evaluating the NorCal Sister City Conference—any comments from people who were there about anything that worked particularly well or lessons learned.
  - a. Dinner/Reception on Friday evening October 19
    - i. Thank you to Taiba Hosseini for hosting the Herat-San Jose dinner, and to Bruce and others who did the planning. It was good to meet other people, and the meal went well.
    - ii. We need a brochure about the Ghazni Hayward Friendship City that describes our program. We could also add information from the Widows Literacy Project on Facebook—we would need to provide Fatima a digital camera to be able to post photos. Humaira will discuss the use of Facebook with Fatima.
  - b. Conference on October 20
    - i. Thank you from Carol Ruth to everyone who participated in the conference, especially because one of the original purposes of the Ghazni-Hayward committee was to support the formation of other sister city relationships, so it's great to see the Herat-San Jose formation committee get started.
    - ii. Comments on Workshops—
      1. The Youth Workshop set up a Facebook page. It's worth thinking about whether it's more of an advantage to have a page, rather than a group. The Herat group is considering this, and Fariba Nawa.
      2. The Protocol-Cultural Exchange group discussed the different structures and purposes of the groups. The Ghazni-Hayward group was the only one with a service project.
      3. Herat-San Jose committee formation went so well that there wasn't enough time to discuss everything because there was so much enthusiasm. Bruce will ask for a report from John Gill, too. The next step is to hold the next meeting of the formation committee on the San Jose State campus with Dr. Qayoumi.

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There also may be a visit by the Mayor of Herat, sponsored by the State Dept., possibly scheduled in January 2013, which the formation committee could be involved in hosting.

2. Discussion about the involvement of the GHFCP committee in the development of other Afghan--NorCal sister cities.
  - a. The GHFCP hosting the NorCal Committee was a big responsibility, though this wasn't clear at the time that we would become the hosts. The benefit was greater participation of the GHFCP in the NorCal association, and the funds raised.
  - b. The Herat-San Jose formation committee needs mentorship, which the Ghazni-Hayward committee can provide at the beginning. Bruce and John Gill are currently the interim co-chairs, but the goal is for the formation committee to elect officers and start making plans on their own. Fariba Nawa is a good candidate for an officer, especially as someone who can keep communication going. There are also some resources on the Sister Cities web site for guidelines, ideas about activities, and ways to get San Jose community members involved in addition to the Afghan community.
  - c. The HGFCP involvement will be to receive reports on the progress of the committee formation. Bruce and John plan to be the temporary scaffolding.
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*.
  - a. What are advantages of the fundraiser at different times of the year—before the celebration of Ghazni 2013 or after a trip, which could bring back information about what the delegation had experienced in the celebration in Ghazni.
  - b. What are other fundraising strategies—such as a direct mail solicitation? This is done by AFN and is successful. (Bruce has the list from Bill Quirk.)
  - c. Motion by Humaira to postpone the fundraising effort of 2013 to Fall, and reserve the possibility of doing a March fundraising effort as a direct solicitation. We propose to use the first meeting of 2013 to explore various fundraising strategies and options. Taiba second, approved by all.
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?

Fatima reported to Humaira that security was so bad over the summer that her family considered moving to Kabul. The situation is much better because there is a new minister, and have been going well for several months. However, the situation has changed dramatically every several months, and could change again depending on who is the minister.

## **Minutes for November 7, 2012**

Rahima moved that we cancel the Dec. 2012 meeting and defer discussing the Ghazni trip until the first 2013 meeting, which will be on January 9. Stephanie seconded. Approved by all.

### **5. Roots of Peace "Pennies Campaign"**

Based on the June motion clarifying the GHFCP goals, the next step is to communicate the motion to the Roots of Peace organization. Bruce will send an email explaining the motion and setting up a meeting to deliver the pictures and to meet to clarify whether to proceed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Cell phone literacy program—Carol Ruth Silver
  - Carol would like to demonstrate this technology to the GHFCP committee at a future date, and to discuss the possible role of the committee in providing this to all of the women in the literacy program.
  - Defer this to the first meeting of 2013 in the context of the fundraising discussion.

## **MEMBER COMMENTS—Happy Holidays**

## **FEEDBACK ON MEETING—none**

Motion to adjourn 9:00.

**Next meeting on Wednesday, January 9, 2013, 7 pm in room 4A of City Hall**