

Richfield Friendship City Commission, Meeting Minutes – June 21, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Ahmad Ansari, Chair.

Those in attendance: James Versteeg, Mary Olafson, Ahmad Ansari, Pixie Pixler, JoAnn Boraas, Dave Delzer, Jim Topitzhofer (Staff Liaison), Roger Swanson and Dave Delzer (guests, former members).

Absent, excused: Marty Kirsch, Cynthy Mandl (RFCC Ambassador)

Absent: Rori Coleman-Woods

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the May 17, 2018 meeting were approved as drafted.

Treasurer's Report: The report was approved, with checking account balance of \$2625.17 as of May 31, 2018.

Old Business: Brochure Update-New Photos – The RFCC brochure has been updated except for photos, which Cynthy will forward to Rori, who will forward to Jim. The goal is to have the updated brochure by July 19 which is our next meeting.

4th of July Discussion – RFCC will not participate in the parade, and will not pursue the possibility to do any fundraising sale of, for example, bottled water, due to an insufficient number of members available.

Unity in the Community - Rori delivered items to the May 24 event for RFCC's use, and James, Cynthy, Marty, and Pixie participated. Attendance was reported to have been low. Boxes of items used are in James' possession, and will be transferred to Jim following this meeting. Jim will deliver them to the Public Works Building, RFCC storage cabinets.

New Business: Statue Vandalism and Maintenance Concerns – Jim reported that the Sofia sculpture and its base both have cracks, evidently from vandalism. He has contacted our Costa Rican colleagues to inquire about repair advice, and has ordered 4 black posts, connected by black chain, to install around the sculpture. This will be set low to not inhibit viewing of the sculpture, and will have "Keep Off" signs in both English and Spanish. The posts and chain are scheduled to arrive tomorrow.

Reception for Lucia – Lucia & Sofia, the Costa Rican girls who were the visual models for the sculpture, will be in the Twin Cities with their mother and brother the week of our next meeting. Cynthy had suggested having a reception for them as well as other Costa Ricans in the area. Cynthy had also informed Jim she would offer to help plan the event. JoAnn and Pixie volunteered to aid Cynthy. Jim believes that City of Richfield funds would be appropriate to use for

the reception, which would be held in the Heredia room following the RFCC meeting. Cynthia would investigate buying “tres leches” cake, which is a popular Costa Rican item, and coffee would be purchased, possibly from Caribou Coffee.

Other Business/Next Meetings: Review of the upcoming RFCC meetings – July 19 meeting with possible reception. August 16 cancelled due to summer break. September 20 would be our typical 3rd Thursday of the month, but since no August meeting, and PennFest to be held September 16, it was agreed that the September meeting would be held the 2nd Thursday of September, which is September 13.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Ahmad Ansari.

Submitted by JoAnn Boraas, RFCC Secretary