

## Richfield Friendship City Commission, Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Marty Kirsch.

**Those in attendance:** Marty Kirsch, James Versteeg, JoAnn Boraas, Pixie Pixler, Cynthy Mandl (RFCC Ambassador), Karen Shragg and Jim Topitzhofer (Staff Liaisons), and multiple guests including Lupita and her children Santiago, Lucia and Sofia, (the girls being “models” for the Sofia sculpture), other local and visiting guests.

**Absent, excused:** Ahmad Ansari (Chair), Mary Olafson (Treasurer)

**Absent:** Rori Coleman-Woods

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from June 21, 2018, were approved with correction to discussion of “Brochure Update-New Photos” to clarify that Cynthy had previously forwarded photos to Rori.

**Treasurer’s Report:** The report was approved. Checking account balance as of June 30, 2018, was \$2625.19.

**Old Business:** Statue Vandalism and Maintenance Concerns – Jim has been in communication with *Saint Paul Fabricating & Decorating Co.* regarding damage to our resin sculpture, Sofia. Jim was informed that resin sculptures are not well-suited to be outside in Minnesota’s extreme weather conditions. One option is to repair the statue annually, with an approximate annual cost of \$500. Alternatively, they can remove the sculpture, take it to their shop, fill the cracks, make a mold of it, centrifuge rubber into the mold at a ½” thickness, then paint the newly-created sculpture to as close as is possible to the original. Their proposal for this option was presented by Jim to the Commission. The cost would be \$3200, and would be borne by the City of Richfield. A third alternative would be to repair the sculpture, repaint it, and move it to an interior location.

The commission voted unanimously to accept the proposal from *Saint Paul Fabricating & Decorating Co.*

Reception for Lucia and Sofia, their mother Lupita and brother Santiago – Cynthy, JoAnn and Pixie purchased and arranged for tres leches cake, a Costa Rican favorite, coffee, and water to be served to all those in attendance.

**New Business:** none.

**Next Meeting:** The August 16 meeting was previously cancelled due to summer break. Since PennFest will be held Sunday, September 16, the next RFCC meeting will be Thursday, September 13, one week earlier than the typical third Thursday of the month.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Marty Kirsch.

The reception followed in the Heredia Room, with Cynthy providing introductions of the guests, giving a presentation about the RFCC, Heredia Park, and the sculpture Sofia as well as other sculptures in Richfield.

*Submitted by JoAnn Boraas, RFCC Secretary*