

**Hickory International Council**  
**Thursday, April 16, 2015; 5:30 pm**

A regular meeting of the Hickory International Council (HIC) was held on Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 5:30 pm, in the Moretz Board Room at the Arts & Science Center of Catawba Valley.

**Members Present:** Hani Nassar, Toshiaki Satake, Marion Love, Jack Crawford, Marc Swinnen, Karl Wolfe and Maria Jose Daily

**Members Absent:** Becky Mich, Ken Humphreys and Michael Kuchinsky

**Guests Present:** Albeiro Grimaldo, Heather Porter and Ethan Porter

**Staff Present:** Minutes Clerk Anne Starnes

A quorum was present.

**Call to Order:** Hani Nassar, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm and welcomed everyone present.

**Introduction of Guests and Board Membership Changes:** Maria Jose Daily returned to regular membership status and was reinstated as a voting member. Michael Kuchinsky is resigning his position at Gardner-Webb and moving back to Washington, DC soon; he had hoped to attend today, but was unable to come.

**Approval of March 19, 2015 Minutes:** Minutes of the previous meeting on March 19, 2015 were distributed in advance. No changes or corrections were stated, and Mr. Nassar said the minutes were approved as written.

**Old Business:**

**2014 HIC Grant Awards Press Release** – Mr. Nassar said the press release was published in the Hickory Daily Record, but without the two recipients' photos. He suggested the Council begin promoting the grants earlier this year, possibly in late August when the teachers return to work.

**BSA-IYC Update** – Jack Crawford said IYC member Ethan Porter will be going to Japan this summer. There were no IYC activities to report on since the previous meeting.

**2015 IFFC Update** – Mr. Nassar distributed the schedule for the International Film Festival for Children (IFFC) on Monday, April 27 through Thursday, April 30, 2015, at three locations in the county. The festival will be attended by children in grades 4, 5, and 6, in public and private schools, and homeschooled students. He reviewed the film schedule and said volunteers will be needed in 2-hour time blocks. The films are mostly 10- or 15-minutes long, with a few being much shorter. Mr. Nassar will send members a list of the films, with links provided for viewing them. Each morning and afternoon schedule includes 90-minutes to view the films and 30-minutes for discussion. Approximately 300 logo entries were received and pared down, then reviewed by members at the previous meeting. Less than 100 logos remain in contention now. Members interested in serving as judges on the winning logos will receive them by e-mail, and cast their final votes.

**Steve McCurry Photography Exhibit Update** – Marion Love discussed the upcoming Steve McCurry Exhibit at Hickory Museum of Art (HMA), September 2015 through January 2016. Representing the

HIC, she recently attended a meeting with HMA and Catawba Valley Camera Club representatives, to discuss exhibit promotions. Advertising will begin in April 2015 and run through September 2015.

Dr. Love requested detailed information from Lisë Swenson, Executive Director of HMA, and distributed written information to HIC members, including plans for exhibit promotions and exactly how the HIC would be involved. A recommendation for promoting the exhibit, pertaining to the HIC's involvement, includes:

- Brief announcements during the IFFC in April;
- An e-mail targeted at the schools and teachers attending the IFFC (including a sample modified lesson plan);
- 500 bookmarks to distribute at events, HMA tours and libraries, at a cost of \$65;
- 500 brochures targeted at grades 6-12, at a cost of \$175;
- 500 flyers for public and private schools, at a cost of \$150; and,
- 500 rack cards for the general public, at a cost of \$110.
- Volunteers would also be needed to serve as docents during student tours of the exhibit.

The total cost of print materials discussed is \$500. The various print components the HIC would fund were discussed at the meeting, and Dr. Love confirmed that all design and distribution responsibilities would be handled outside of the HIC, with the HIC only providing funds. The HIC's name and logo would be included on materials and in future advertising, along with HMA and the Camera Club.

The HMA would like to see the exhibit heavily toured by school groups. Dr. Love said the HMA and Camera Club websites would include a lesson plan for teachers in grades 4, 5 and 6.

Mr. Nassar said \$6,600 remains in the HIC's current fiscal budget, through June 30, 2015. He reviewed outstanding and future expenses, including the recent Model UN expenses and upcoming Great Decisions expenses. He suggested the HIC might help fund another aspect of the exhibit, such as a reception for Steve McCurry. Dr. Love suggested sponsoring some type of programming, to be determined, but developed around the exhibit.

Jack Crawford said he had reviewed the criteria for the BSA photography merit badge, and suggested a program/reception with Steve McCurry be considered. Dr. Love was not sure Mr. McCurry would participate in the program, but said she knows a professional photographer who could assist with the Boy Scout photography badge. Mr. Crawford said someone from HMA could also present the program, if not Mr. McCurry, but the scouts could tour the exhibit. Dr. Love will discuss the idea with Lisë Swenson.

Hani Nassar moved, seconded by Jack Crawford, to approve funding \$500 for print materials, as outlined and discussed by Marion Love, and further authorizing Dr. Love to spend up to an additional \$300 as she sees fit, based on the interests of the Hickory International Council, in association with the Steve McCurry Exhibit at Hickory Museum of Art. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **New Business:**

HIC Financial Statement – Mr. Nassar discussed the remaining budget and outstanding expenses earlier in the meeting.

Folkmoot USA Preparations – Folkmoot will be in Hickory on Sunday, July 19, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, in the SALT Block Auditorium. Their organization has a new Executive Director, and Mr. Nassar talked with her recently. Last year, their organization gave children 12 and under free admission, but this year they are not. Mr. Nassar suggested the HIC continue letting children attend free, but in the same way that it was handled last year, with \$5 paid up-front for each ticket, for a child 12 and under, and then reimbursing the \$5 if they actually attend. He said Boy Scouts coming in uniform could also attend free, but they must first buy a \$5 ticket, and then be reimbursed when they attend. Members discussed ticket

outlets for this year, and noted the Tasteful Beans location at the library is no longer there. Ticket locations will be Tasteful Bean downtown and the Arts Council office, but another location is also needed.

Mr. Nassar asked Karl Wolfe to update the Facebook page and add the Folkmoot 2015 event information.

Members discussed the various countries performing this year, deciding to request that Germany, Indonesia and Spain be the three countries performing in Hickory. Hopefully, two out of three will be assigned to Hickory.

Mr. Nassar said that last year, the HIC joined Folkmoot as an associate member, at the Friends of Folkmoot level, a \$150 cost. He said this could be done again this year.

The Candelight Closing Ceremony will be on Sunday, July 26 at Lake Junaluska. Various HIC members expressed interest in traveling together to the Candelight Closing Ceremony, and Mr. Nassar will request free tickets. If not all of the tickets are free, members will split the expense of the full-cost tickets.

Great Decisions 2015 – Mr. Nassar will purchase 30 books for the program in September-October 2015. Already, 27 people have signed up to participate, so only three seats remain open. Paul Martino will serve as facilitator again this year.

Other – Maria Jose Daily said a Foreign Language Festival would be held at LRU next weekend, with high school students competing. It is open to the public and free to attend.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 21, 2015, 5:30 pm in the Moretz Board Room at the Arts & Science Center.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

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Hani Nassar, Chair  
Hickory International Council

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Anne Starnes, Minutes Clerk