



MINUTES

Arvada Sister Cities International

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Arvada City Hall – 3B

- I. CALL TO ORDER – 5:45 p.m. by President Bernie Burgmaier
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the regular meeting of March 17, 2009, as revised March 16, 2009. Motion for approval, as revised, was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- III. REPORTS:
 - A. City Council: No report.
 - B. City of Arvada: No report.
 - C. Committee Reports:
 1. Mechelen: No status report was available.
 2. Kyzylorda: No formal status report was available. Nancy Bentzen commented she had talked with Mike Coen regarding home hosting, possibly in 2010.
 3. Jinzhou: A summary report and discussion were had regarding the ADEA meeting and the special ASCI meeting held March 10, 2009. Dr. Chang summarized his understandings that the City and ASCI go slowly in establishing and continuing their relationship with Jinzhou; that China's Department of Defense is the largest industry in China; and that the City and ASCI should establish a program to educate ourselves as to China's cultural structure and its sporadic tax changes in doing business. Tim Geisler commented that every business experience is unique, and requires flexibility and toughness. Ideas that were discussed to advance ASCI's relationship with Jinzhou included; fundraisers, such as a dinner/silent auction; establish business partnerships with the primary emphasis on technology; investigate and pursue an English/Chinese website to promote Jinzhou in the City; consider an exchange program with DU students; pursue grants with the City's grant writer; and expose Arvada and surrounding areas to Jinzhou on Channel 8, including the showing of Bruce Nickerson's CD (with suggested edits). Finally, discussion was had as to inviting Jinzhou representatives to re-visit the City. Such an invitation would probably be next year, and should include a visit to the mountains. Dr. Chang cautioned that this step should be a low priority and any visit should be for a specific reason(s).
 4. Education: Connie Williams indicated there was no update from the previous meeting.
 5. Fundraisers: Due to Edna Gordon's absence due to illness, there was no formal report. The committee is considering another dinner fundraiser.

6. New Business: No report.

- IV. TREASURER'S REPORT: Nancy Bentzen presented the Treasurer's Report for the period February 17 – March 17, 2009. Report accepted without objection. It was previously requested that such Treasurer's Report be included as an attachment to the minutes.

- V. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: ASCI representatives will be meeting with the Optimist's Club on April 7, 2009, to give a presentation of the City's visit to Jinzhou.

- VI. ADJOURNMENT: 6:50 p.m.

ASCI Members in attendance: Beth Whittier, N.K. Chang, Char Branaugh, Jim Branaugh, Karl Burgmaier, Jodie Haslam, Nancy Munn, Maria Tibbetts, Nancy Bentzen, Tim Geisler, Brenda Berg, Bernie Burgmaier, Elton Laidig, Dale Williams, Connie Williams, Eva Zerr, Bob Jackson, Shirley Jackson, and Edwin Bentzen.

Recording Secretary: _____
Beth A. Whittier

Date: March 17, 2009