



Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission Meeting

November 10, 2021

4pm via Zoom

MINUTES

- I. Welcome and Roll
 - Present - Chair Stanley Li, Vice Chair Margaret Lee, Commissioners Eric Peterson, Alexander Golovets, Joseph Kong, Leonard Berry
Guests: Applicants Bobby Winston, Ed Medina and Jason Tran,
Student guest Olivia Lozano and Staff Liaison Trina Jackson
 - Absent – James Lee

- II. Acknowledgement of guests and potential commission applicants.
Jason Tran was welcomed by the chair – local architect

- III. Review and approve minutes from previous meeting(s).
Chair Li motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Vice Chair Margaret Lee. The motion passed with Commissioners Li, Lee, Kong, Peterson voting yes, with Golovets abstaining and Berry absent.

- IV. Treasurer’s Report
 - Commission raised funds - \$1,288.71
 - City allocated funds - \$1,000.00

- V. Update on Recognition of Jim Matzorkis
 - The commissioners and applicants gave comments on the memorial ideas presented. Commissioners and applicants were asked to provide

input within two weeks. The item will be placed on the December agenda for discussion.

VI. Status of proposed Interactive Communication Program with Zhoushan.

- Commissioners Margaret Lee & Peterson made contact with various supporters to discuss a mandarin language course at Contra Costa College for local students and international students. Dr. Wei Li is a potential instructor for the proposed state funded course. Dr. Wei Li has met with CCC to discuss the proposal on 11/8. If all goes well, the course may be offered by January, if added to a current approved state course. Once approved, contact will be made with students and collaborators. Not sure if international students could take courses remotely for credit. Need to confirm if middle school international students would be able to take the course.
- Commissioner Li – Additionally, retired teachers could prospectively teach the courses as a pilot that could foster interest from other teachers and support from the community.
- Other ideas: Lyon’s Club and Toastmasters. Lyon’s Club is a recognized program in China. The commission will present the proposed program(s) to Zhoushan.
- Starting with a virtual International Toastmaster Course as a pilot consisting of American instructors teaching English to international students and Chinese instructors teaching Mandarin to American students. The goal is to eventually develop a mutually beneficial college credit course
 - Via zoom
 - International toastmaster 8-week program – 45 minute sessions – timing would be coordinated with Zhoushan
 - Toastmaster program fee could be paid by the commission, if approved.
 - A stipend for local teachers was suggested
 - The program needs to be mutually beneficial for Richmond and Zhoushan

- Commissioner Peterson suggested sending the proposal to Zhoushan for consideration. Staff Liaison Jackson will draft the proposal and share with Commissioners Margaret Lee and Eric Peterson for review and input prior to sending to Zhoushan

VII. Discuss updates needed to the commission websites

- Staff Liaison will contact Commissioner James Lee to inquire about updating the zhoushanrichmond.org website. The COR webpage also needs updating.

VIII. Other matters of interest

- Economic development – The subcommittee has met with Jim Baker with the Richmond Community Foundation. Commissioner Leonard Berry will continue meetings to discuss a housing project and the social impact goals. Would like to contribute to improving the image of Richmond.

- Next agenda

- Consider a new regular meeting date for 2022
- Responses and input on memorial ideas
- Subcommittee reports

IX. Confirm next meeting date - December 8th at 4pm

X. Adjourn