

2023.11.04 Saturday

In person meeting at Panera (Panera Bread, 3278 Tremont Rd, Columbus, OH 43221, USA) at 9 am.

Present: Peyman Majidi, Mina Mokhtari, Mehrzad Elmi, Parisa Fatheddin, Farid Amirmokhtari, Nazi Shafiee, Mohammad Shokouh-Amiri

Absent: Fariba Azad, Behzad Namzi

Guests: Ebrahim Paydar, Katayoun Shokouh-Amiri

Meeting started at 9:40

Agenda

- 1. Approval of the October minutes -
- 2. Officer Election results
- 3. Event Committee – Review of the events, upcoming events
- 4. Fundraising committee
- 5. New Business: Suggestions/ Discussions

- 1. October Minutes approved as written.
- 2. Parisa shared the results of the survey. For president Mr. Shokouh-amiri, Vice President Mehrzad Elmi, Treasurer: Parisa and Secretary: Peyman Majidi

Mr. Shokouh-amir and Mr. Elmi chose not to accept their roles. Discussion ensued over elected officers not willing to accept their roles due to many reasons. In general, consensus seems to favor the role of the officer be a female figure and a fresh face. The board agreed to reach out to Fariba Azad for President. In the event she declined Peyman would take this office.

- 3. Event Committee
 - a. Review of the Mehregan events; the event went well; had over 80 adults and 10/12 children present. Charmy's dinner was good. However, constructive criticism was shared for future events.
 - i. No lighting was provided just outside of the facility
 - ii. The parking lot was not enough for everyone. To check with the facility moving forward
 - iii. No Sign was posted directing people to the correct location
 - b. Donation amount \$121.00 ; Cost of the event approximately \$350; Net loss of \$229.0
 - i. The venue charged us for the kitchen fee (\$200) even though they told us they would not charge us if we only used food warmers. - Mehrzad to follow up on this. ICA would not be paying this fee.
 - c. Yalda night will be celebrated at the same venue. Event committee will meet to discuss the content of the event. Board agreed to charge Charmy's 10% of the proceeds (Mehrzad to reach out to Charmy's).



- i. Moving forward all vendors at ICA's event would be charge a percentage of their earnings.
 - d. 13-bedar - Location agreed to be park of Roses on April 7th. Mrs. Mokhtari will reach out and reserve the area.
 - e. Chahar shanbe soori - Decided to not plan for it this year. Next year is a possibility.
- 4. Fundraising Committee
 - a. Mr. Paydar shared that there are 5 subcommittees under this committee. They are
 - i. Subcommittee to reach out to Businesses with Iranian owners - Paydar and Farid
 - ii. Subcommittee for events - Nazi and Maryam
 - iii. Subcommittee for membership fee - Peyman and Mohammad
 - iv. Subcommittee for influential people - **Needs volunteers**
 - v. Subcommittee for public organizations - Mr. Jamshidi and Paydar
 - b. Mrs. Shafiee shared that ICA could sponsor silent auctions at their events to generate revenue both for the person selling items on auction and ICA; Raffle tickets can be considered as well;
 - i. Mr. Ashrafi has agreed to put up his paintings for sale with 20% of the proceeds to ICA at Yalda
 - c. Mr. Paydar shared that he had reached out to the Columbus Foundation and provided details to them. Waiting to hear if they'll donate anything
 - d. Peyman has purchased a Square for credit card processing for ICA (details of transaction fee to be shared later)
- 5. New Business
 - a. Peyman shared that he wants to start a monthly newsletter. Needs at least two or three regular contributors. It was discussed the newsletter could be uploaded to the website so we don't overuse, overload the people with emails.
 - b. Webinars / Monthly speakers - Need speakers once ICA gets up and running
 - c. Telegram group for board members and volunteers to facilitate faster communication
 - d. ICA website needs bio and pictures for the board member page
 - e. Suggestion box at ICA events; mention donation box at ICA events; someone to man the donation & Suggestion box table; pre-made survey for ICA events to be used in the suggestion box (Katayoun offers to take care of a survey template)
- 6. Next board meeting will be on Zoom on Thursday December 7th at 9 pm. Peyman will share the zoom link

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 pm

