

HALTON REGIONAL CHINESE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION (HRCCA)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sunday September 26, 2010, 6.30 pm, 520 Michael Terr, Oakville (Lui's)
Minutes

Present: Allan Lo, Alex Lui, Amy Ho, Ed Younglai, Frances Chui, Helena Han, Ho Wong, Louis Tsai, Mary Lui, Shirley Wong

1. Minutes of Aug 08, 2010.

Moved by Alex, seconded by Ho to accept.

Carried unanimously.

2. Matters arising

2.1. Dragon Boat festival. Amy reported that our team secured 3rd place in the "C" division. The question was raised as to whether paddlers can be subsidized. It was pointed out that HRCCA already does this with \$600 contribution for the team. New paddlers had a great time. Recruiting female paddlers has always been a problem and it is also difficult to evaluate the success of the event since Amy receives very little input/feedback. Amy will ask around for pictures taken at Kelso so that they can be posted onto the HRCCA website as promotional material for next year.

2.2. MAF. Another milestone achieved with SRO capacity at the Burlington Seniors' Centre this year. Helena and Shirley did a fantastic job with some assistance from Allan and Louis. There were at least 305 in attendance – 196 paid. Volunteer hours for students will be handled by Shirley. HRCCA is in the red by \$350 for this event compared to \$575 in 2009. The talent showcase was a resounding success. Two pictures appeared in the Sept 22 "Burlington Post".

Mary was concerned about the HRCCA subsidizing events hosted by HRCCA. To lighten the monetary burden, she suggested selling raffle tickets at functions to offset the low cost of the tickets.

Allan had a number of suggestions: 1. Team leaders to co-ordinate since kids were lost. 2. Lot of refreshments for low admission price –should non-members pay a higher fee? 3. Maybe have theatre seating so can eliminate noise? 4. Need to involve Oakville parents and kids. 5. Big 'thank you' to Susan for co-ordinating prizes but may be too many. Could possibly have more frequent prize drawings.

2.3. Survey. Helena presented the results of the surveys carried out at the BBQ and MAF. There were 85 completed surveys – 45 from the BBQ and 40 from MAF. Some facts from the survey:

- they know very little about HRCCA
- they come to know HRCCA through their friends.
- they mostly speak English and Mandarin
- they enjoy the summer BBQ the most amongst the functions sponsored by HRCCA.
- they would want to see recreational activities – like ping-pong and badminton.

3. Treasurer's report - Ho gave an interim report showing a net gain of \$357 to date with revenues from membership dues and 2010 CNY totaling \$2700 but excess expenditures of \$500 (operating), \$12 (gym), \$917 (BBQ) \$570 (Dragon boat) and \$346 (MAF).

4. Outreach report -

4.1. Police Chief's Forum. Louis and Ed attended the Sept 9, 2010 meeting of the Halton police chief who was awaiting grandson's birth. Recruitment of new officers was discussed (they need minorities but qualifications must be quite high). Other groups mentioned their activities. Next meeting is Dec 2.

4.2. HMC. Annual gala is on Saturday April 30, 2011 with Chinese theme. Ticket price is \$80 – not a fund raising event. Louis is attending their next meeting Sept 28 to discuss HRCCA’s participation. They need performers and volunteers to help out. In order for Louis to be comfortable representing HRCCA participating in this gala event, he wants a commitment from the HRCCA Board as to the level of support either in financial and/or manpower hours. From Louis’ perspective, he did not foresee any hurdle in securing performers or human resources including volunteering hours, but promoting ticket sale to the event is dubious.

5. Update on other activities:

5.1. CNY 2011. Burlington Convention Centre (BCC) was already booked on Feb 12 and 19 but they could offer Sunday Feb 13. Consensus from informal telephone poll and email discussions was to go to BCC, a change of venue from Summit Garden Restaurant. Louis will confirm with BCC and clarify A/V system, screens and use of hall from 12 noon. Agreed to charge \$80 for members, \$100 for non-members and \$150 for corporate sponsors. Mary was able to negotiate a slightly better deal from Ken (Summit Garden – no shark fin!). Idea of a bazaar was put forward – this is quite involved and a city license is needed. A limit of 2000 tickets is proposed at \$10 a ticket. Mary will pursue this matter and invite someone from OTH foundation board to attend our next meeting to help promote our CNY2011 fundraising event. Another co-chair in addition to Alex, is needed. 2011 is the 10th anniversary of the HRCCA and all retired BoD members are being invited to be honoured.

In order to host the CNY 2011 in BCC, a minimum of 500 attendees is needed. This could be in a rough split of 150 core members and 350 non-members. So the questions is can we attract 500 participants at those ticket prices? Mary thinks it is possible and she also suggested planning some other fund-raising activities early like raffle tickets, gaming activity, wine tasting; etc.

5.2. Chinese New Year Feb 3. Shirley brought up the issue of Chinese families not having an opportunity to participate in CNY2011 because of ‘prohibitive costs’. Louis proposed a joint HRCCA/Burlington Chinese School New Year extravaganza at Notre Dame High School for Saturday Feb 5, 2011. This school was previously used by HRCCA for another function and was very successful. Louis will work with Denis Huynh and Helena to bring this to fruition. Sponsors and other interested parties such as lawyers etc could participate. Helena will book the school gym.

6. Other business:

6.1. AGM. The annual general meeting is usually held in December and for the past two years at Red Maple buffet in Burlington (Appleby and Upper Middle). It is proposed to have this year’s on Sunday December 19 starting at 11.30 am.

6.2. Constitution. An article pertaining to the absence of a role of HRCCA BoD in the selection of the HRCCA annual scholarship was discussed but tabled for more explicit wording. Ho will work on this.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10.15 pm.

Next meeting – November 14, 2010. 7.00 pm, Lui’s, 520 Michael Terr, Oakville.