

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors;

Thurs., August 26th, 2010 in Winnipeg at 285 Pembina Hwy

The meeting was called into order at 8:00 pm.

All members of the Board were present at the meeting, except Mr. Doustshenas due to a business trip.

The current meeting's agenda was accepted by the present members.

A motion was made by Mr. Saleh-Azad to accept the minutes of the last meetings of August 5th and 12th with some minor corrections. Seconded by Mr. Azizkhani; 5 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

Communications and Correspondence:

Mr. Saleh-Azad reported about Companies Office's forms and documents that will be finalized by end of this week as soon as all board members' contact info are provided in order to present the new directors to this office.

He also provided a draft letter to Premier of Manitoba and Mayor of Winnipeg, asking them to recognize Iranian New Year as Nowruz. Some corrections were made to the content, and it is decided that this letter to be accompanied with a cover letter consisting of the list of directors and ICM's contact info. A motion was made by Mr. Shaeri to send the above documents to the officials. Seconded by Mr. Kamrouz; 5 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

He also provided a "Receipt form" for ICM to be used among all committee members to be given to people in return of receiving checks or cash. A motion was made by Mr. Saleh-Azad to accept this receipt format as an ICM's official receipt form. Seconded by Ms. Mazloumi; 5 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mr. Azizkhani to setup a more professional email address (icm@icmb.ca) to be used for government agencies and organizations in providing ICM's contact info to them. Seconded by Mr. Saleh-Azad; 5 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

Regarding the Multiculturalism Office, it was clarified that there is no letter required. It is only supposed to be a notification to this office to replace the previous board member (Mr. Towfigh) with Mr. Kermani which must have been done by Mr. Doustshenas.

Mr. Shaeri had a meeting with the volunteers to work on the website design which was very productive. They have decided to create two separate websites side by side, one in English with a radio button to select the Persian site. This will be done using wordpress software in both languages. Both sites will also have their main menu with drop down feature on top, and the main page in the middle with the sides left open for ICM newsletter and ads.

It was decided that if there is no logo design suggested by people in the next few days, then there will be another email sent to ICM email list reminding them to send their designs by mid September.

There was an email sent by Mr. Doustshenas to the Board regarding the government's application for Multiculturalism Grants, which will be discussed in the next meeting.

Committees' Reports:

PLC:

Mr. Kamrouz reported that the textbooks for the Persian Language Classes are ordered and will be ready for students by **Sep. 11, 2010**. He also keeps following up with the Winnipeg School

Board and Kelvin high school to make sure that classes are ready by then. Mr. Kamrouz has amended previously discussed PLC's Terms of Reference and was asked to send a copy to the Board members in order to be used for other committees' TOR development.

Mr. Azizkhani is still investigating whether parents are able to use the receipts from the classes and sport activities to claim their tax rebates.

Sports:

Committee's questionnaire is sent to ICM email list inviting those who are interested in sport activities such as soccer and volleyball, and there are some forms returned.

A motion was made by Mr. Azizkhani introducing a new contract with JDC for soccer games on Sundays which was provided by Mr. Iranpour. Seconded by Ms. Mazloumi; Discussions: the rent is \$1315.00 for 29 sessions starting from Oct. 3rd, 2010. This proposal is rejected by the Board, since there is no guarantee that we will have enough players paying \$80.00 (for members) and \$100.00 (for non-members) to cover the gym's rental cost. This motion was amended for the contract to be signed for 20 sessions only. Seconded by Mr. Kamrouz; 4 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 1 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

Arman from U of M was contacted by Mr. Azizkhani again in order to participate in soccer league creation, but he has not returned the call yet.

Sports Committee's financial report will be provided by ICM treasurer, Mr. Azizkhani, who is also Committee's chair, in the next meeting.

Events:

Ms. Mazloumi reported about the third annual "Picnic in the Park" which was held on August 8, 2010 in the Crescent Park. More than 120 participants attended this successful event organized by the ICM's events committee. Feedbacks indicate that everyone shared good time; there was a great atmosphere, accompanied by music, dance and refreshments. The ticket holders also enjoyed delicious lunch prepared by several volunteers. Lunch was served on time with an unnoticeable delay. Before the lunch being served, Dr. Sadri, who is moving to Toronto, was introduced and thanked as a distinguished member of our community for his years of service to people in Winnipeg.

All volunteers were recognized by introducing them and by handing over appreciation letter. This event could not have happened without their hard work and dedication. Various games were introduced to children through which several prizes were given away. The Board is looking forward to repeating the wonderful experience and having an even better picnic next year. Picnic's financial report will be provided by ICM treasurer in the next meeting.

Mr. Kermani reported that his membership with Eagles club was finalized at a cost of \$40.00, in order to get their place at lower cost, and a deposit of \$158.00 has been paid by him to book the location for ICM Mehregan celebration.

The board has decided that all the pictures taken in ICM's events need to be scanned and those pictures which are personal taken out before posting them on the website for public viewing, unless a direct permission is given by that person.

A motion was made by Ms. Mazloumi to announce the ticket prices for Mehregan event to be \$5 and \$10 for members and non-members, and \$2 for children under 10 years old. Seconded by Mr. Kamrouz; 5 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

Two emails are supposed to be prepared by the event's committee chair, Ms. Mazloumi, to be sent to ICM email list. One, inviting people to Mehregan event to be held on Oct. 2nd with a

poster with details of the event attached to it. Other email would be inviting people to financially or artistically sponsor this upcoming event.

Membership:

There was a meeting discussing the ways to increase the membership by the assigned task force members, taking into account the quality, not to be compromised by the increased quantity. There was no conclusion due to lack of members present in the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Kermani to change the date hosting the open house meeting to **Sunday Sept. 19th** from 2 to 5 pm, due to people's unavailability. The location will be determined later. Seconded by Mr. Kamrouz; 5 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

Settlement:

There was a meeting with all members of the settlement committee present. Mr. Moradi was volunteered to modify the "First Steps" pamphlet prepared by "Welcome Place" in order to prepare it for the new immigrants to Manitoba rather than only refugees, as it is currently prepared for. Then, it will be translated to Persian. This committee will be working on its TOR in the near future.

Art, Culture, and Education:

There was a meeting with 8 people present from this committee. After a brief introduction by the present guests, discussions initiated around the subject of ICM's mission being not prejudice. It was noted that even though ICM respects all religions, political views and ethnic backgrounds, but it's not in a position to reflect any specific views and must remain neutral.

In regards to having Poetry Nights by ICM, from the past unpleasant experience, it is suggested to be limited to our famous poets rather than leaving it open for those who want to make this event political or one sided. Overall, the meeting was productive and it was decided that the positions for this committee to be determined in the next meeting.

NEW Business:

A motion was made by Mr. Kermani for the minutes of all committees' meetings to be sent to the Board members for their reference. Seconded by Mr. Kamrouz; 5 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mr. Kamrouz to initiate a task force group working on all the required and necessary changes to ICM's Constitution and By-Laws. These changes will be discussed in the Board and they will be presented in upcoming Emergency General Meeting for member's vote in October. Seconded by Mr. Saleh-Azad; 5 Approved, 0 Opposed, and 0 Abstained; **Motion carried.**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday Sep. 9th** at 7:30 pm at 285 Pembina Hwy.

The above meeting was adjourned around 11:45 pm.