

**CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA
AGENDA REPORT**

**AGENDA # 17
DATE December 16, 2003**

ITEM New Appointments, and Existing Term Realignments to Advisory Commission on International Relationships

INITIATED BY City Commission

ACTION REQUESTED Appoint Members

PRESENTED BY City Commission

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RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the City Commission appoint three new members to the Advisory Commission on International Relationships for the recommended staggered terms set to expire on March 31 of varying years and realign existing members terms to stagger the term.

MOTION: I move the City Commission authorize the following with regard to the Advisory Commission on International Relationships:

- » Appoint Lisa Thibault to fill the remaining term of Bob Mease, through March 31, 2006;
- » Appoint Judith L. McKay to a three-year term, through March 31, 2006;
- » Appoint Lori Larson to a two-year term through March 31, 2005;

And, realign the following existing board member terms as follows:

- » Bob Harris through March 31, 2004;
- » Lee Neibuhr through March 31, 2004;
- » Ryan Miller through March 31, 2004;
- » Ella Mae Howard through March 31, 2005;
- » Sara Hopkins Schoenenberger through March 31, 2005;
- » Aart Dolman through March 31, 2006.

SYNOPSIS: Robert Mease was appointed to the Advisory Commission on January 15, 2002. Mr. Mease has resigned from the Commission; therefore it is necessary to appoint one member to fill the remainder of his term. On October 21, 2003, by Ordinance 2863, the size of the Advisory Commission on International Relationships was increased by four members, making it necessary to appoint additional members to the Commission. Three applicants have expressed interest in serving on this commission. The ACIR members have interviewed each of the applicants and request the City Commission appoint all three applicants to serve the Advisory Commission on International Relationships.

In addition, due to the expansion in size of the Advisory Commission and that the ACIR By-Laws indicate an April date for election of officers, the ACIR members also respectfully request the City Commission realign existing members to the requested terms in order to provide for balanced, staggered terms of service and to accommodate the annual election of officers in April of each year.

BACKGROUND: International programs are growing for many reasons. Rapid changes in communications technology, globalization of the marketplace, and political changes in the last decade have all contributed to an increasing awareness these trends will accelerate in the future. Communities, as well as individuals, businesses, and institutions will need to learn to participate in the "global village," or be left behind economically or in other ways. In order for the City to take a leadership role in nurturing and coordinating some of the international efforts, the Advisory

Commission on International Relationships was created by Ordinance 2788 on November 8, 2000, and amended by Ordinance 2863 on October 21, 2003. The Commission provides support, coordination, and exchange of information for international programs in the community. The Commission consists of

nine to eleven members.

Current members include:

Aart Dolman
Sara Hopkins Schoenenberger
Robert E. Harris
Ella Mae Howard
Ryan Miller
Virginia "Lee" Niebuhr

Citizens interested in serving include:

Lori L. Larson
Judith L. McKay
Lisa Thibault