

Boulder-Cuba Sister City Organization 2015 Annual Report

The Boulder-Cuba Sister City Organization is an all-volunteer non-political 501(c) (3) charitable organization. Membership is open to all regardless of race, religion, nationality, political beliefs.

City of Boulder Resolution 631 Compliance

Boulder-Cuba Sister City Organization maintains compliance with all provisions of Resolution 631 regarding: (1) 501(c)3 status; (2) board of directors; (3) membership; (4) financial responsibility. Documents are available for public inspection by contacting Kathleen Hennessey 2835 LaGrange Circle, Boulder, CO 80305.

Highlights of the year 2014 include:

Organizing and implementing a trip to Cuba, including visits to our sister municipality of Yateras and other historic and cultural sites . We were fortunate to secure a two-year license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury to organize non-academic educational/people to people exchanges to Cuba. In January, 16 participants visited Havana and eastern Cuba focusing on Arts and the Environment. These participants took part in trip highlights focusing on Cuban art, dance and music, environmental issues, and Cuban cuisine. On this trip we took school supplies, medical supplies, reading glasses and guitar strings to our sister municipality.

Other highlights of 2014 include: At our early 2014 public meeting there was an election of officers where Kate Hennessey was elected Vice President and Spense Havlick was elected President of BOCUSCO. We continue to gather educational and cultural materials for the Cuba trunk as a part of the Boulder History Museum "City in a Trunk" project. In mid-October we brought a troupe of eleven Cuban artists, an art historian and dancers/drummers from our sister city area in eastern Cuba. Several Cuban-American musicians from Miami reinforced our programs inasmuch as six of our original invitees from eastern Cuba were denied visas by the U.S. Interest Section in Havana. The group that did come to Boulder made seven presentations including a full evening presentation of art at Frasier Meadows, several Boulder Public Library dance performances, plus elementary school lessons in art and dance. The Intercambio Fiesta was another venue for our Cuban visitors. A special multi-age art workshop was presented at the Dairy Center for the Arts. Besides a generous grant from the Boulder Arts Commission, we had several local sponsors such as the Daily Camera, Flatirons Subaru, Eldorado Springs Water Company, Joy in Motion studio, Boulder Chamber of Commerce, and Lightspeed Marketing Group.

Work Plans for 2015:

Public meeting and election of officers scheduled for May 2015 . A reunion of January 2015 Cuba sister city delegates is planned for February 15.

Vice President Kate Hennessey is nearing completion of a publication on Cuban ornithology and birds of the Caribbean, plus a new volume about life of los campesinos, the rural farmers of Cuba. The several acclaimed works that Kate has edited or authored enrich readers both in Boulder and Cuba because of her dual translations.

Several public meetings are planned to highlight 2015 delegation trips to Cuba and to bring expert speakers on Cuban affairs to the Boulder community. A potential November 2015 Cuban trip itinerary and recruitment is also part of the 2015 work plan.

The Boulder International Film festival has scheduled a Cuban cinema item at our request. We continue to be active in the Boulder Sister City Alliance organization.

2015 meeting dates:

The first business meeting of the BOCUSCO Board of Directors will be May 2015. This and other public meetings will be noticed on our Boulder Cuban sister city organization website: www.bouldercuba.org

Photos of 2015 trip highlights and Cuban artists are available upon request.

Attachment A

Our officers for 2013-2014 are Spense Havlick , president, Kate Hennessey, vice president , Gerra and Bradford Lewis, co-secretary, and Val Havlick , treasurer. Board members include Chuck Howe, Tom Kuntsman, Kathy Apodaca, Pat Comer, Karen Weaver, Jennifer MacDonald and Joan O'Connell.

The fundraising effort in 2014 consisted of a modest cost-savings from our January 2014 delegation to Cuba. The \$32,660 total trip cost including fees paid to the Cuba Tourist agency Maruzul , tips to the bus drivers, the guides and docents at special destinations such as museums, historic sites, the Stone Zoo, and national park. The residual after all the trip bills were paid resulted in \$10,510. From that amount our insurance, website , publicity and membership recruitment is paid. Our annual dues for students and seniors is \$15, and for non seniors it is \$ 20. Partial scholarship funding is available for Cuba trips.

All of our presentations, programs and lectures in 2014 were free and open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Spense Havlick February 2, 2015