

AKHBOR: News of Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities

Construction Committee Reports on Cyber Café for Dushanbe

Construction plans for the Dushanbe Cyber Café are near completion. The consulting engineers, *Tajik-Swiss Project Professionals*, are completing the structural, mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering drawings. Upon the completion of the engineering documents, the architectural renderings will be finalized by Barrett Studios here in Boulder.

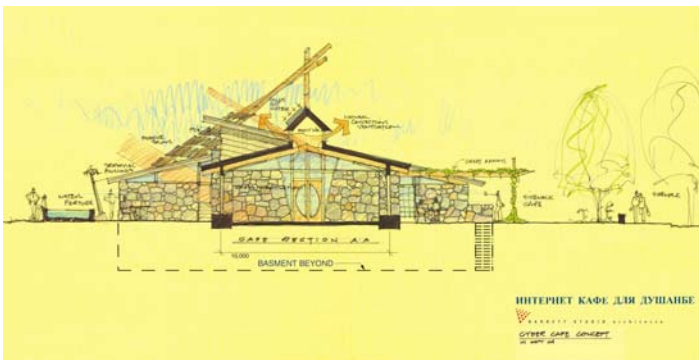


Photos courtesy of Barrett Studio Architects

The selection of a building contractor in Dushanbe has also begun. The selection is a multi-step process. First, a *Request for Statement of Qualifications* from interested building contractors was published in the Dushanbe news media, and known reliable contractors were contacted. Next, contractors will submit information about their business experience, building project history, financial data, and labor force for review by the *Tender Offer Committee*.

The Tender Offer Committee is comprised of representatives of the Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities Construction Committee, Boulder Mayor Mark Ruzzin, staff of Tajik-Swiss, and a representative of the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe. Mayor Ruzzin has also asked Dushanbe Mayor Ubaidulloev to join the Tender Offer Committee in the spirit of cooperation between our sister cities. We are awaiting Mayor Ubaidulloev's response to this request.

The committee will review the qualifications of interested contractors and select the four to six most qualified to submit *Tendered Offers* (similar to "bids" in Boulder).



In the next two months, contractors will be submitting their tendered offers using drawings and specifications being prepared in Dushanbe and Boulder. At the end of this period, if BDSC fundraising is adequate to begin, ground will be broken in Dushanbe. We will be looking forward to seeing concrete, stone, and steel giving shape to the gift we have longed to give to the people of Dushanbe.

Upcoming Events

BDSC Annual Meeting – November Date/Time TBD –
Boulder-Dushanbe Teahouse

Presentations by board members and board elections.

For more information, please contact Don Mock by email info@boulder-dushanbe.org.

Boulder Rotary Club to Sponsor Elementary School Exchanges with Dushanbe

The World Study Exchange Committee of the Boulder Rotary is sponsoring exchanges between Crestview Elementary 4th and 5th grade students in Boulder and an elementary school, yet to be determined, in Dushanbe.

Several years ago Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities sponsored similar and highly successful exchanges between Flatirons Elementary school in Boulder and School # 20 in Dushanbe. The Boulder Rotary also hopes to involve the newly established Dushanbe Rotary Club. Dushanbe's Rotary Club was established through the efforts of the Boulder Rotary and Rotary District Governor, Norris Hermsmeyer.

Jancy Campbell, a member of both the Boulder Rotary and the Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities board, will be working with Crestview teachers and contacts in Dushanbe to set this exciting exchange project into motion.

Vern Seieroe, Co-President of the Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities says, "We believe that student exchanges are very valuable parts of our Sister City program if not the most valuable. So we highly encourage your efforts. Please accept our support and enthusiasm for the efforts of the Boulder Rotary to create a student exchange with students of Dushanbe."

For more information on this program, please contact Jancy at 303-931-9663 or by email at jancy@jancycampbell.com.

Sister Cities Annual Dinner "a Great Success"

Close to 70 people attended the Annual Dinner at the Teahouse last month. All raved about the abundance of food, the music and dancing. Much thanks to Karla Friar, Mary Beth Zarlingo and volunteers of the membership committee for organizing this annual event. Kudos to Lenny Martinelli and the wonderful staff of the Teahouse for helping to make this yet another "great success".

Help Out by Volunteering!

BDSC is always on the lookout for dedicated volunteers interested in getting involved, meeting more members of your community, and helping support BDSC.

Volunteer Coordinator Lois Leonhardi asks you to contact her for more information about filling important roles in BDSC (email: Lois@Leonhardi.com or work phone: 303-302-6448).

Fundraising Committee – Don Mock (Chair)

Eight volunteers are needed to help raise funds for the construction of the new Cyber Café in Dushanbe. Committee members will work as a team to come up with strategies to solicit major gifts from local corporations and individuals. Volunteers will be provided with training and information to relay to the prospective donors. Estimated time commitment after the initial meeting is two-four hours per month.

Public Awareness Committee – (Committee Chair open)

The Public Awareness Committee is a newly created committee with the task of generating PR for BDSC. A committee chair (preferably someone with industry experience in marketing, public relations, etc.) is needed to create a Public Awareness program for BDSC.

Five volunteers are also needed to serve on this newly created committee. No experience necessary. Estimated time commitment is two-four hours per month.

2006 Dushanbe Trip Planning

Planning is underway for a Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities tour to Dushanbe and Central Asia during 2006. If you are interested in going or just curious to learn more, please contact Sophia Stoller at 303-444-3196 or email her at sophiastoller@yahoo.com.

Notes from the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will travel to Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, and Kazakhstan October 10-13 to advance bilateral and regional cooperation in the region. The Secretary plans to meet with presidents of these republics including President Rahmonov of Tajikistan in Dushanbe. She also plans to meet with leaders of civil society and with members of the small business community to express support for their efforts.

The U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe launched a new version of its website: dushanbe.usembassy.gov



Contacting Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities

Email:

General information: info@boulder-dushanbe.org
Donations: treasurer@boulder-dushanbe.org
Membership: membership@boulder-dushanbe.org
Newsletter: newsletter@boulder-dushanbe.org
Volunteers: volunteers@boulder-dushanbe.org
Web site: webmaster@boulder-dushanbe.org

Phone: 303-444-9004

Web site: www.boulder-dushanbe.org

If you are receiving this newsletter and you are *not* currently a *member* of BDSC, please consider joining or renewing by sending a check for \$30 (basic individual/household membership) to:

Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities - Membership
PO Box 115
Niwot, CO 80544

To make a contribution to the Cyber Café Gift project, send a check made out to:

Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities - Cyber Café
PO Box 4864
Boulder, CO 80306

Please include name, address, phone and email address with all correspondence. Information is kept confidential by BDSC.



PO Box 4864
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