



# City of Racine

City Hall  
730 Washington Ave.  
Racine, WI 53403  
www.cityofracine.org

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Sister City Planning Committee

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Wednesday, December 14, 2016

4:30 PM

City Hall Room 307

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#### Call To Order

*In attendance:*

*Rev. Al Guetzlaff, Michele Caskey, Heather Godley, Dawn Imberi, Tom Kennedy, Franc Martinez, Linda O'Connell, Dwayne Olsen, Keiko Skow*

*Absent:*

*Maricella Tellez, Alice Petersen*

#### Approval of Minutes for the November 9, 2016 Meeting.

**A motion was made to Approve the Minutes**

**Motion passed by unanimous voice vote**

#### Treasurer's Report

*Account number 11202-53480 - \$3791.52*

*Account number 20624-11100 - \$1532.73*

#### Old Business

*New members – Linda O'Connell mentioned the name of a local gentleman had who expressed an interest in joining the Sister City Council. The consensus of those present was that there is always room for talented, committed newcomers. The discussion engendered another topic: representation from the City Council. We have been without a City Council representative for over three years.*

#### New Business

*Kiwanis ornaments - In a conversation with someone affiliated with Kiwanis International, Michele put forth the idea of creating a Christmas ornament that features our sister cities. The project could be accomplished by Christmas 2017 if we can come up with a design.*

#### Chairman's Report

*Status on Sister School project/visit – We are still working to find a suitable time for a transatlantic conference call with Montélimar as we collaborate on the Sister Schools project. Franc Martinez reported that four Racine high school students are current with their payments and will take part in a study tour to France in spring 2017.*

*Chabrilan/Prairie School exchange – The ongoing partnership between The Prairie School and Chabrilan School in Montélimar will continue as our French partners plan to send a group of students to Racine in May 2017. Members of the Montélimar*

*sub-committee will meet with Tracy Waters (recently retired French teacher from Prairie) and her replacement, Monsieur Rudel Simon, later in December to discuss the details of the springtime hosting effort.*

*Cultural submission to Montélimar – Last month we learned that Montélimar features information about its sister cities at their holiday market. In response to a request from them, Michele Caskey and Heather Godley created and sent an electronic slide show that offers our French partners a look at local sights and customs at Christmas time.*

## **Committee Reports**

*Oiso – The Oiso sub-committee is working to recruit interested Racine students for a two-week family stay in Oiso next summer. They held an informational sessions at the Racine Public Library on December 8, which was attended by one local students. Dwayne Olsen, Keiko Skow and Dawn Imberi will schedule a follow-up meeting on February 2, 2017, and publicity from Facebook and the Journal-Times will increase interest, we hope.*

*Aalborg – Since the November meeting the Racine Journal-Times published an article on the DGI Festival in Aalborg next summer. Aalborg has invited sports enthusiasts from its sister cities to compete in a variety of events. Thus far no one from Racine has expressed an interest in participating. The Planning Council briefly discussed how we could reinvigorate our relationship with Aalborg.*

*Montélimar – See entries in the Chairman's Report.*

*Zapotlanejo – No report*

## **Adjournment**

*The December meeting adjourned at 5:30 p. m. amid joyous wishes for a happy holiday season. The first meeting of the new year will be on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 4:30 p. m.*