



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Sister City Planning Committee

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

4:30 PM

Room 307, City Hall

Call To Order

PRESENT: 6 - Keiko Skow, Al Guetzlaff, Linda Duczman O'Connell, Dwayne Olsen, Michele Caskey and Tom Kennedy

ABSENT: 3 - Lisa Koenen, Maricela Tellez and Dawn Imberi

EXCUSED: 3 - Alice Peterson, Heather Godley and Francisco Martinez

Approval of Minutes for the July 13, 2016 Meeting.

A motion was made to Approve the Minutes

Treasurer's report

Account balances stand as follows:

Account number 11202-53480 - \$6064.39

Account number 29624-11100 - \$1532.73

Several payments from the Oiso visit have not yet been processed. Total expenses for the two-week visit of our guests will be between \$1500 and \$1600.

Old Business

These items will be contained in the Chairman's report and the committee reports.

New Business

These items will be contained in the Chairman's report and the committee reports.

Chairman's report

History of Sister City Signage – As Dwayne Olsen passed through a Midwestern city recently, he noticed a sign that announced its sister cities. Dwayne wondered in an e-mail if we should put some effort into doing the same thing. Rev. Guetzlaff provided us with a short history of Racine's signage, some of which is still prominently posted but outdated. Three signs (only one extant) date back to 1999 when Fortaleza, Brazil and Bluefields, Nicaragua were still active partners. We were made aware of the state and local restrictions, such as size and placement. Discussions on the topic led to suggestions that we remove the old signs and determine suitable locations for a new sign or signs.

Montélimar response to Sister School Project – As the sixtieth anniversary of our partnership with Montélimar approaches, our council has proposed a celebration that

solidifies the school partnerships based on the Sister Schools model of Sister City International. Rev. Guetzlaff distributed a response from Alain Silve of the Montélimar sister city council. Our French counterparts look favorably on the initiative, and had a few questions and comments about how to implement the ideas in the Sister City Toolkit. We discussed the next steps which include scheduling a Skype meeting to iron out the direction of our efforts, contacting local educators to enlist their support and reviewing the Toolkit.

Committee Reports

Publicity and Information: No report

Oiso: The council reviewed the visit of Sumi and Yuna, our two young guests from Oiso, who were here from July 21 to August 4. We generally agreed that the collaboration of host families and the Oiso subcommittee (Keiko Skow, Dwayne Olsen and Dawn Imberi) provided a memorable two weeks for our guests. The itinerary prepared for them gave host families plenty of opportunities to show the visitors a wide spectrum of life in Racine, and Keiko was appreciative of the participation of many Sister City members.

Montélimar: See Chairman's report

Aalborg: No report

Zapotlanejo: No report

Youth Exchange Project: No report

Adjournment

The August meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p. m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.