



# City of Racine

City Hall  
730 Washington Ave.  
Racine, WI 53403  
[www.cityofracine.org](http://www.cityofracine.org)

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Sister City Planning Committee

*Linda Duczman O'Connell*

*Dwayne Olsen*

*Tom Kennedy*

*Al Guetzlaff*

*Dawn Imberi*

*Francisco Martinez*

*Michele Caskey*

*Alice Peterson*

*Keiko Skow*

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Wednesday, March 8, 2017

4:30 PM

Room 307, City Hall

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#### Call To Order

**PRESENT:** 8 - Linda Duczman O'Connell, Dwayne Olsen, Tom Kennedy, Al Guetzlaff, Francisco Martinez, Michele Caskey, Alice Peterson and Keiko Skow

**ABSENT:** 1 - Dawn Imberi

#### Approval of Minutes for the February 8, 2017 Meeting.

#### Treasurer's report

Acc't #11202-53480 - \$10,000.00

Acc't #20624-11100 - \$1,532.73

One of the accounts has a new designation number due to an updated income categorization.

#### Old Business

*Old and new business items will be covered in the Chairman's Report and in the Committee Reports of these minutes.*

#### New Business

#### Chairman's report

Rev. Guetzlaff circulated information about Hygge Fest, a celebration of Danish life and culture that is coming to Racine County. 'Hygge' is a Danish word that roughly translates to a feeling of comfort and coziness. Real Racine received a grant and is in the process of planning three days of events that feature Danish food, activities, tours, classes and much more. The target dates are February 10-12, 2018, and the Sister City Council has been called on to help with the planning and execution of the festival. Michele Caskey was mainly responsible for generating a list of potential activities, and among council members, we added events from the Racine Public Library and the arts community. We also suggested contacting our partners in Aalborg for additional ideas.

## Committee Reports

Oiso – Dwayne Olsen updated the council on the plans to invite Racine high school students to participate in a summer exchange program with Oiso. From the twelve applicants, three were selected to take part in the two-week family stay: Tai Kalmar from Horlick, Jephry Valliere from the REAL School and Krysta Venegas from St. Catherine's. Before their departure in July, there will be informational meetings and Japanese language lessons. Participants from the exchange two years ago will be invited to the preparatory meetings to share their experiences and offer advice. Keiko Skow informed us that the Oiso Sister City Council is busy finding suitable host families.

Montélimar – Franc Martinez will be chaperone for a group of four high school students travelling to France next month. He reports that all the travelers are up to date with passports and paperwork, and that they are in contact with their host families for the Montélimar portion of their trip.

Rev. Guetzlaff prepared and distributed an itinerary for the students who will visit Racine through a Prairie School exchange. Twenty-two guests will spend a week hosted by Prairie families, visiting schools and community in May. Sister City will be responsible for providing transportation on two days during their stay, and eager council members began the sign-up process.

Publicity and Information – No report

Zapotlanejo – No report

Aalborg – No report

Youth Exchange Project – No report

## Adjournment

*The March meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p. m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 4:30 p. m.*