



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
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

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

4:30 PM

City Hall Room 307

Call To Order

PRESENT: 7 - Dwayne Olsen, Tom Kennedy, Al Guetzlaff, Francisco Martinez, Michele Caskey, Alice Peterson and Keiko Skow

EXCUSED: 2 - Linda Duczman O'Connell and Dawn Imberi

Approval of Minutes for the March 8, 2017 Meeting.

A motion was made that this file be to Approve the Minutes. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Account number 11202-53408 - \$10,000

Account number 20624-34500-10001 - \$1532.59

Old Business -

Hygge Fest Al Guetzlaff and Michele Caskey spoke with Dave Blank of Real Racine about potential collaboration as we look ahead to Hygge Fest, scheduled to take place in February 2018. Mr. Blank now knows that he can count on assistance from the Sister City Council as he plans the events. Hygge Fest is designed to highlight aspects of the Danish heritage in Racine County, and our connection with Aalborg could add some authenticity to the planning.

New Business -

New business items will appear below in this report.

Chairman's Report -

Sister School Project with Montélimar – Rev. Guetzlaff distributed a letter he received from Wolf Lynen, Chairman of the Montélimar Sister City Council. Monsieur Lynen expressed his regrets that Montélimar council members have decided not to pursue the suggestion that our two bodies meet in person. The original proposal called for Racine to host a delegation to further the active school exchanges that our two cities enjoy. The letter expressed the Montélimar Council's willingness to continue their support for Chabrilan's and Alain Borne's foreign travel, but they will do so without a formal meeting.

Meeting with Mayor Dickert – Mayor Reynier of Montélimar sent a letter requesting a meeting with Mayor Dickert. Rev. Guetzlaff responded with a letter informing the Montélimar Sister City Council that Mayor Dickert will be leaving his office within the next few months, and that Mayor Reynier and his delegation are always welcome in Racine regardless of who occupies the mayor's office.

Committee Reports

Publicity and Information – No report

Oiso – As three Racine students get ready for their visit to Oiso this summer, the Oiso committee continues to meet with them and help them prepare for their two weeks in Japan. Passports, airline tickets and a questionnaire for students to introduce themselves to host families are among the topics covered.

Keiko Skow informed us that as of April 1, the Oiso Sister City organization is working under the auspices of the Oiso International Association.

Montélimar – Franc Martinez departs for France with four students on April 15. Part of their nine-day tour will be with families in Montélimar, and Franc has agreed to be a spokesman for the Sister City Council. Rev. Guetzlaff has provided Franc with a gift and a letter to be presented while there. The Montélimar council sent a program of events that have been scheduled for our participants.

The Montélimar committee continues to put details in place for the Chabrilan students who will be here in May for one week. Their visit is part of a school exchange with The Prairie School, and as in past years, French teacher Tracy Waters collaborates with us on the planning of an itinerary.

Aalborg – No report

Zapotlanejo – No report

Youth Project – No report

Adjournment - The April meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p. m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 10 2017 at 4:30 p. m.