



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, June 14, 2017

4:30 PM

City Hall, Room 307

Call To Order

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

EXCUSED: 1 - Francisco Martinez

Approval of Minutes for the May 10, 2017 Meeting.

The minutes of the May meeting were amended to correct a misspelled name. Our guest was identified as Bobby Maldonado; his first name is Fabi.

Treasurer's report

Acc't #11202-53480 - \$9,293.30

Acc't #20624-34500-10001 - \$1,532.59

Old Business

Hygge Fest – Michele Caskey made the Council aware of a travelling exhibit of the Hygge Fest tradition sponsored by the Danish Museum of America. Michele called Dave Blank of Real Racine to let him know about it in the hope that the exhibit will help publicize the Hygge Fest event scheduled for Racine County in February 2018.

Location of Sister City gifts – Alice Peterson asked about the status of gifts presented to Racine from our sister city partners. Most presentational gifts are currently warehoused in the Racine Public Library, and we wondered whether some of these items could serve our community better if they were displayed more publicly. Artwork from Denmark and ceremonial garments from Mexico, for instance, might be more meaningful in a classroom or art studio setting. Now that these items have been inventoried, we could approach classroom teachers, Real Racine or community centers and ask about their level of interest.

New Business

These items will be covered in the Chairman's Report and the Committee Reports.

Chairman's Report

Alain Silve visit – Rev. Guetzlaff announced that Alain Silve, chairman of Montélimar's sister city council, will be in Racine for a short visit on June 15. Alice Peterson has volunteered to serve as interpreter as Monsieur Silve will visit the Racine schools that have partnerships with Montélimar, meet with Racine's three Kiwanis groups and take a short tour of Racine. A meeting with Mayor Dickert is not possible on that date, however.

Reimbursement requests – Rev. Guetzlaff reminded council members to submit reimbursement forms for any expenses they incurred during the week-long visit of the students and chaperones from Chabrilan School in May.

Oiso trip grant – Rev. Guetzlaff was pleased to announce that our three participants in the Oiso exchange have been granted \$100 each from an anonymous donor. He further suggested that the council use money from the 20624-34500-10001 account to further defray expenses for our summer travelers. Dwayne Olsen moved and Michele Caskey seconded the motion that we award each participant \$300. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Committee Reports

Publicity and Information – Both the Racine Journal-Times and the Racine Facebook page covered the spring trip to France led by Franc Martinez. Michele Caskey will work with Heather Godley as they update the Sister City Facebook page. Rev. Guetzlaff circulated a newspaper article from Montélimar featuring the visit of French students to Racine. We will contact chaperone Patricia to ask if any of the participants would be willing to share their photos with us.

Oiso – Three Racine students will spend two weeks in our Japanese sister city this summer, and the Oiso subcommittee has hosted two workshops to help them get ready for their time with an Oiso family. More meetings have been scheduled on behalf of the students and their parents.

Montélimar – Council members reviewed our part in the one-week visit by Montélimar students. Eighteen students and four chaperones took part in a school exchange with The Prairie School. The group leaders had positive comments on the planning and execution of the itinerary, and Linda O'Connell reported that some adjustments to the Chicago visit worked out to everyone's advantage.

Aalborg – No report

Zapotlanejo – No report

Youth Exchange Project – No report

Adjournment

The June meeting adjourned at 5:42 p. m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 4:30 p. m.