



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Sister City Planning Committee

Dwayne Olsen
Dawn Imberi
Michele Caskey
Alice Peterson
Keiko Skow
Tom Kennedy
Francisco Martinez
Linda O'Connell
Al Guetzlaff
Abey Kuruvilla
Heather Godley

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

4:30 PM

City Hall Room 307

Call To Order

PRESENT: 8 - Dwayne Olsen, Dawn Imberi, Michele Caskey, Keiko Skow, Tom Kennedy, Francisco Martinez, Al Guetzlaff and Heather Godley

EXCUSED: 3 - Alice Peterson, Linda O'Connell and Abey Kuruvilla

Approval of Minutes for the March 14, 2018 Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Account balances read as follows:

Account number 11202-53480 - \$10,000

Account number 20624-34500-10001 - \$1532.16

Chairman's report

Future meeting schedule –

Henceforth the Planning Council will meet on the third Wednesday of each month. Mayor Mason indicated that he would like to be included in our meetings whenever possible, and the change was made to accommodate his schedule.

Francophone/Francophile Cities – City Hall was contacted by Mr. J-P Bernier of the Francophone and Francophile Cities organization in Ontario, Canada. Racine has been identified as a city with a strong connection to the French-speaking world, and the purpose of Mr. Bernier's email was to invite us to join the Franco-Canadian initiative. The objective is to promote members' tourist attractions on an international basis. After brief discussion, the council agreed that membership is worth pursuing. We will submit historical data to Mr. Bernier to validate our status.

New Council member – Rev. Guetzlaff learned that Prof. Abey Kuruvilla has been selected to join the Sister City Council. He is a professor in the business department at UW-Parkside, and we look forward to welcoming him at our April meeting.

Committee Reports

Publicity and Information – Work continues on the updated Sister City brochure. From her home office, Linda O'Connell is gathering and incorporating pertinent information and visuals to accompany each of our sister city partners. The new brochure will also include a message from Mayor Mason.

Oiso – Keiko Skow circulated a brochure from Oiso that featured a report and photos of our Racine exchange students who spent several weeks in Japan last summer.

Montélimar – Much of the meeting was devoted to an update of visiting students from Lycée Alain Borne next month. Seventeen students and two chaperones from our sister city will enjoy a homestay and school visit in Racine from April 8 -15. At this point we have secured host families for all the guests, and most of the future guests and hosts are getting acquainted via virtual media. We reviewed the itinerary for the week and secured chauffeurs for outings. Five Racine high schools will take part in the exchange.

Aalborg – No report

Zapotlanejo – No report

Adjournment

The March meeting adjourned at 5:45 p. m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 in Mayor Mason's office.