



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
Julie Nelson

Wednesday, August 22, 2018

4:30 PM

City Hall Room 307

Call to Order

PRESENT: 7 - Dwayne Olsen, Dawn Imberi, Keiko Skow, Francisco Martinez, Linda O'Connell, Al Guetzlaff and Heather Godley

ABSENT: 1 - Abey Kuruvilla

EXCUSED: 4 - Michele Caskey, Alice Peterson, Tom Kennedy and Julie Nelson

Approval of Minutes for the July 18, 2018 Meeting.

Treasurer's report

Account balances read as follows:

*Account number 11202-53480 - \$4691.94**

Account number 20624-34500-10001 - \$1722.16

This number should have changed, however, the city has not yet process the latest expenses from the Japanese visit.

Chairman's Report

Rev. Al noted that our gift stockpile will not be replenished until after the October visit of the Danish band, which may come up from Chicago and is not yet confirmed.

Expenses for this visit, if any, should be minimal and will depend on the venue. Also, expenses from the Japanese visit must still be subtracted.

Committee Reports

Publicity and Information - Linda and Michele will be meeting soon to review visuals and finalize accompanying text for the updated Sister City brochure. Linda emailed the Japanese tourism bureau about images of Oiso and is waiting to hear.

Oiso – The subcommittee reports that the visit went very well. Costs to entertain 3

students for 2 weeks approached \$1,400. The visit received good coverage in the *Journal Times*. Asked what they liked about their visit – the students replied with typical Japanese reluctance, “everything.” However, it was suggested more shopping time be built into future visits. Rev. Al said a host mother is interested in joining the Sister City Council. Another potential Council member is Steve Salvo, whose child is learning Japanese from Keiko. There are 3 students already interested in participating in the Japanese exchange – one from a host family for this visit and two who participated in the French exchange. The council discussed whether there will be need to open up our search for participating students beyond this group, since we have said host families receive priority. The consensus was that accepting applications when we don’t have slots available might cause issues. At Dwayne’s suggestion the group discussed how it might be good to have expectations that our students, who participate in any visit to Oiso, send letters to the editor talking about the value of their experiences. Heather said she even if not printed, she could post these on our Facebook page.

Montélimar – Franc Martinez reports 20 students have expressed interest in the 2019 Spring break visit to France. Students have until the end of the month to get paperwork started.

Aalborg – We have only preliminary information regarding next year’s student athlete and civic participants events in Denmark. The Danes are currently busy with their international youth games, so we will contact them after October by which time they should have more information to share.

Zapotlanejo – No report

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

No new business

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p. m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 12, 2018.