



# City of Racine

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Sister City Planning Committee

---

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

4:30 AM

City Hall Conference Room 207A

---

**Call To Order: Rev. Guetzlaff called the September meeting to order at 4:33 p. m.**

Secretary's report: The minutes from the August meeting as submitted by substitute secretary Annika Bolter were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's report: Account balances read as follows:

Account number 11202-53480 - \$6,322.65

Account number 20624-34500-10001 - \$2,795.98

Student Presentation: Two Racine students, Max Imberi and Jasmine Van Brocklin, joined us to offer a powerpoint presentation highlighting their time in Oiso. They were chosen to participate in a two-week homestay program as guests of our Japanese sister city last summer. Both reported on a successful and worthwhile stay in Oiso, and the powerpoint gave us a glimpse of some of their activities, such as learning to cook a Japanese meal, taking part in a holiday parade and visiting the home of a former Premiere of Japan. Their presentation concluded with a short question-and-answer session with members of the council.

**Chairman's report: Pen pal inquiry from The Prairie School – Rev. Guetzlaff informed us of a request from a social studies teacher at The Prairie School who was eager to put his students in touch with Spanish-speaking parts of the world. Rev. Guetzlaff's reply was not an encouraging one, since our partnership with Zapotlanejo, Mexico has been inactive recently, and the connections to both Fortaleza, Brazil and Bluefields, Nicaragua have been terminated.**

Old Business: Civic leadership visit to Aalborg – Mayor Mason has been invited to attend a civic leadership conference in our Danish sister city in the spring of 2020. Ashley Sanchez informs us that he will know by the end of this month whether his schedule will make it possible for him to attend.

Committee vacancies – There are still open positions on the Sister City Planning Council. Annika Bolter informs us that interested citizens can now apply on the city's web site.

Update of presentation gifts – Michele Caskey found a photo of a stylish mug with the Racine Sister City logo on it, and we discussed whether an updated version would make an appropriate presentational gift. Other suggestions were also mentioned, such as neckties and scarves.

Letter from Frédéric Clauzel – Monsieur Clauzel, a teacher at the Alain Borne High School in Montélimar, France, wrote to ask for our help as he organizes a student exchange in 2020. As in the past, he envisions accompanying a group of twelve-fourteen students who are anxious to practice their English-language skills for a week as a part of a homestay and school visitation program in Racine. M. Clauzel asked whether February or April would suit us better, and we will respond that April is preferred. The council immediately started formulating plans to recruit host families.

President Obama – When it was announced that our forty-fourth president will be in Aalborg later this month, we discussed sending him good wishes from our council, reminding him that Racine—a city he visited in 2010—has a long-standing twinship with Aalborg.

**Adjournment: The September meeting adjourned at 5:40 p. m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 4:30 p. m.**

**If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Mayor's office at (262)-636-9111 at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.**