



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Sister City Planning Committee

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

4:30 PM

City Hall Conference Room 207A

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

Mayor Corey Mason, Everett McKinney, and Ashley Sanchez

PRESENT: 7 - Caskey, Skow, Martinez, O'Connell, Guetzlaff, Kennedy and Bolter

ABSENT: 2 - Kuruvilla and Taft

EXCUSED: 1 - Peterson

Secretary's report:

The minutes of the September meeting were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's report: Account balances read as follows:

Chairman's report:

Membership update – The addition of Everett McKinney gives the council additional manpower, especially with Montélimar, our French partner. We will pursue other names that have surfaced, such as Marybeth Zuhlke.

Old Business:

Civic leadership visit to Aalborg -- Mayor Mason has been in touch with Aalborg, Denmark, which is hosting a civic leadership conference from May 11-15. The purpose of the conference is to disseminate and discuss strategies for meeting the 21st century challenges that our cities face. We await a formal invitation from Aalborg.

Update on presentation gifts -- Rev. Guetzlaff brought examples of neckties and scarves that proudly displayed the seal of Aalborg, as well as several books that we have received from Aalborg. In a letter from Abey Kuruvilla, he informs us that has contacted some of his colleagues in the art department at UW-Parkside. The art faculty is willing to work with us on the creation of presentation gifts, perhaps as a class project. We also brainstormed other sources of help, such as the Racine Creative Center.

New Business:

Update on Alice Peterson – Rev. Guetzlaff read an email from Council member Alice Peterson, who recently underwent surgery. We were pleased to learn that she is back home and recuperating nicely.

2020 Montélimar student visit – Alain Borne High School in Montélimar is planning to send twelve to fourteen students to Racine in April 2020 for a one-week visit. Key components of their stay in Wisconsin will be school visitation and homestay. Franc Martinez has contacted the French teachers in Racine schools to help recruit host families. A list partial list of interested families has already been begun.

Updates from Mayor Mason – Mayor Mason expanded on remarks he made at a previous meeting about his visit to the Republican Banquet in Montélimar last summer. He was overwhelmed at the level of hospitality that he and other foreign guests were shown. Friends of Racine PRCS (Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services) is a new feature city life. Through Friends of Racine, citizens can make tax-deductible donations to their favorite civic cause, including Sister Cities.

Adjournment: The October meeting adjourned at 5:28 p. m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 20, 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.