



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Approved SISTER CITY COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

Monday, November 4, 2019

5:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108 (City-County Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Chair, Charles James, at 5:30 PM.

Present: 9 - Frank L. Alfano; Josephine H. Oyama-Miller; Carolyn A. Gantner; Daina P. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius; Charles J. James; Jon F. Heinrich; Salvador A. Carranza; Jonathan S. Solari and Rahel Desalegne

Excused: 2 - Samba Baldeh and Musa Jallow

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Solari, seconded by Carranza, to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2019 Sister City Collaboration Committee meeting. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

No disclosures or recusals.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The display case in December is scheduled to have all sister cities represented. James suggested that since our next SCCC meeting is December 2nd that we plan on a joint event afterward to set-up the display case.

James will contact Kennedy Elementary School for final details regarding their November 18th international event and provide an update to the SCCC.

Alfano informed the group that the gift bags have been received and provided to the Mayor's Office. Also, the new sister city banners are ready for installation on Park St. although there will be a slight delay due to ongoing road construction.

REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[58028](#)

Sister City Program Reports November 2019

Obihiro - Arrangements are being made to host two professional groups next year; mental health in April and family care in May. A student exchange is also being planned involving a Madison group in the summer followed by an Obihiro group in September.

Arcatao - They will participate in two holiday fairs - Orchard Ridge Church on November 23rd and Monona Terrace on December 7th. Gantner said they have just started plans for hosting a delegation perhaps in the spring 2020 and having a visiting delegation to Arcatao in the late summer.

Vilnius - Zemliauskas-Juozevicius is planning on participating November 18th at the Kennedy School international event.

Tepatitlan - Madison artists are still set to begin painting a mural at a local high school next April. The artists will also provide classroom instructions. They have initiated contact with a second university in Tepatitlan in hopes of establishing a relationship.

Bahir Dar - The current unrest in Ethiopia makes it difficult to establish a stable relationship. They are still moving ahead with a limnology connection between Bahr Dar and UW-Madison and plans for a delegation exchange next year. Desalegne said the organization has obtained nonprofit status.

Camagüey - The President has acted to end commercial flights from the U.S. to Cuba to all cities except Havana. Plans for the Camaguey Jazz 2020 trip to Camaguey have been disrupted. Heinrich said that a charter flight is possible as well as flying to Havana and bus to our sister city. This represents further action to disrupt Cuba economically after the President also ended "people-to-people" travel for U.S. citizens. Delegates in the October Wisconsin Medical Project trip reported that hardships in Camaguey are evident.

Freiburg - James announced that their annual meeting is set for Tuesday February 18, 2020 at the University Club. All SCCC members are invited and he will send an email announcement. Freiburg celebrates their 900th anniversary next year and Madison will participate and planning is underway for the organizations involvement.

ITEMS FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

[56425](#)

2020 SCCC Celebrate Madison's Sister Cities

Attachments: [06-10-2019 SCCC work group notes.pdf](#)

Alfano provided a summary of the working group meeting on October 28th. The event will be held at MATC Truax campus again on May 9, 2020. Tickets will be made available online through Brown Paper Tickets and admission will stay at \$40.

We have not received any positive sponsorship responses from our letters

based on a recent discussion with Kujabi of Kanifing who would be the recipient. Follow-up was encouraged for those that have been assigned businesses and organizations to contact. MATC will be recognized as a sponsor. Only minimal changes are planned for the event booklet. The formal invitation letter to our sister city officials is being revised and will be ready to send in November. Alfano requested that D'Costa be provided the name of recipients and addresses from each organization.

Neil Heinen will be contacted to see if he will serve as MC for next year's event. A keynote speaker affiliated with an EU organization or knowledgeable on current EU affairs will be the focus of the work group. James will contact the EU organization for sister cities and Carranza will explore possibilities through the UW.

Entertainment will be provided by a Lithuanian dance group (6-8 people), Italian folk dancers (8-10 people) and German choir (30-40 people). Each of these groups will perform three numbers and receive an honorarium of \$250. Half price (\$20) dinner tickets will be available to all performers who want to stay for the remainder of the program. Their guests would pay full price. Delegates from sister cities will attend complimentary of the SCCC. All other costs to host a delegation will be responsibility of each sister city organization.

The menu will be developed from the SCCC cookbook with Freiburg, Mantova and Vilnius each providing three recipes for consideration. In response to comments provided on last year's event ingredients for each menu item will be provided at the buffet table.

A formal handout announcing the event will be available for the International Fest at the Overture Center in February.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Oyama-Miller, seconded by Gantner, to adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other. The meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.