



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft SISTER CITY COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

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Monday, December 2, 2019

5:30 PM

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

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Chair Charles James at 5:45 pm.

**Present:** 8 - Frank L. Alfano; Daina P. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius; Charles J. James; Salvador A. Carranza; Samba Baldeh; Jonathan S. Solari; Rahel Desalegne and Musa Jallow

**Excused:** 3 - Josephine H. Oyama-Miller; Carolyn A. Gantner and Jon F. Heinrich

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Alfano, seconded by Carranza, to approve minutes of Nov. 4, 2019 SCCC meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

No disclosures or recusals.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heinrich sent a resolution to the Common Council regarding the U.S. stance on Cuba, urging the current federal administration to return to engagement with Cuba. Encouraged SCCC members to write in support as individual members of the community.

### REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[58440](#)

Sister City Program Reports December 2019

**MANTOVA:** Alfano reported that the Madison-Mantova Sister City (MMSC) sent Christmas gifts to city officials of Mantova including UW "Bucky" scarves.

**TEPATITLÁN:** Carranza gave update on mural project in Tapa. Three full walls in a high school have been designated for the mural - Lupe Rios will coordinate. Four artists from Madison will travel there in February, 2020 and there will possibly be a grand opening in May or June, 2020. The principal of this high school is interested in setting up a student exchange program with

**Madison.**

**VILNIUS:** Participated in Kennedy Elementary School's International Night in November. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius announced that the annual Madison-Vilnius Sister City (MVSC) Christmas Eve celebration will take place on Sunday, December 15 at St. Dennis School in Madison. She invited SCCC members to take part.

**BAHIR DAR:** Desalegne reported that there has been a connection made with a professor at a university in Bahir Dar to work with the Limnology Dept. at UW. They are working on a grant to bring that professor to Madison.

**FREIBURG:** James announced that Madison-Freiburg Sister City (MFSC) will be holding its Annual Dinner and Meeting at the University Club on Thursday, Feb. 18, 2020. SCCC members are invited as their guests.

MFSC participated in Kennedy School's International Night in November. James contacted Madison Maennerchor re: performance at Celebrate Madison's Sister City event in May. They have agreed. Size of choir, number of songs TBD.

MFSC's next meeting will be held on December 9, all are welcome to attend. Will be held at the home of John and Barbara DeMain.

Freiburg's Sister City Fest will be held in Freiburg in July, 2020. Mayor Rhodes-Conway has indicated that she will attend. Fest organizers request that art from Madison be on display. James will look into acquiring works from ArtWorking.

**KANIFING:** Baldeh/Jallow report that Madison-Kanifing Sister City (MKSC) is raising funds to build a library on land that has already been purchased in Kanifing. There has been a group here meeting every other week including the library system head, builders of libraries, and the UW Library specialist to discuss this project. Kanifing's mayor has invited Mayor Rhodes-Conway to visit. MKSC is planning a group trip to Kanifing next year.

**ARCATAO:** (submitted via email) Gantner announced that Madison-Arcatao Sister City Project (MASCP) participated in a Fair Trade Holiday Fair in November and will do so again on December 7, 2019 at Monona Terrace. MASCP sells embroidery items, tree ornaments, jewelry, and many other gifts created in Arcatao.

## ITEMS FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

[56425](#)

2020 SCCC Celebrate Madison's Sister Cities

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

The work group has met several times. Keynote speaker still to be determined and the group welcomes ideas. Looking for someone who is conversant in the history of sister cities as they relate to Europe. Baldeh suggested contacting our European sister cities' embassies for ideas.

Invitations to the mayors of Freiburg, Mantova, and Vilnius and other sister city mayors are in process of being developed. Invitations to the mayors of

Freiburg and Kanifing will be hand delivered. Other invitations, such as those to consulates, are the responsibility of each sister city to send out.

Sponsorships for Celebrate Madison's Sister Cities 2020 are needed and critical, especially if our speaker is from Europe, and we'd have to finance the trip. Alfano will contact MATC for an in-kind donation. Members of SCCC have been following up with phone calls and emails to the businesses that were contacted in October.

For the May event, each sister city is responsible for their own visiting delegations, but they will not be charged for dinner.

Friday, May 8 has been reserved by Mayor Rhodes-Conway to meet with the various delegations.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Carranza, seconded by Jallow, to adjourn at 6:35 pm.