



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
[www.cityofmadison.com](http://www.cityofmadison.com)

## Meeting Minutes - Draft SISTER CITY COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

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Monday, August 5, 2013

5:30 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room LL-120 (Madison Municipal Building)

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 -

Frank L. Alfano; Carolyn A. Gantner; Daina P. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius;  
Charles J. James; Jon F. Heinrich; Salvador A. Carranza and Enrique R.  
Gandara

**Absent:** 2 -

Josephine H. Oyama-Miller and Lauren Cnare

**Others present:** Sally Miley, Mayor's Office and Karen Milstein, Obihiro  
Committee.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

James motioned to approve the minutes - motion was seconded by Gandara -  
minutes from June 3, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

[31105](#) Use of Sister City Display Case in City County Building by the Dept. of Civil Rights

The Department of Civil Rights has requested use of the display case to showcase information related to the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement and the Madison Equal Opportunities Ordinance. There are scheduled presentations that will be displayed in the case regarding Sister Cities for the rest of 2013, so that won't be possible. Gantner motioned to reject the request - motion was seconded by James. The motion passed unanimously. The SCCC recommends that DCR contact the new central library to see if they have an area they could use.

Schedule for the display case is: Freiburg and Tepatitlan (September); October for Mantova; November for Arcatao; December is Obihiro; January is for Camaguey.

[31022](#) Review of Sister City Videos on City Website

Miley suggested some of the videos on the city website needed to be updated and some of the cities don't have any video listed. Each member will review their video before the next meeting and this will be discussed at the August 26th meeting and suggest changes to send to the City IT Department.

[31023](#) 2013 Budget Review

Alfano stated last year's budget of \$15,000 for Sister Cities. Each City was given \$1,000 earlier in the year - releasing a total of \$8,000.00. That left a balance of \$7,000 to be used as discretionary funds to be used at the Mayor's discretion. If the \$7,000 in discretionary funding is not spent by the end of the year, it would be split among each city equally. There has been a request from the Mayor's Office for some discretionary funding to be spent on the Freiburg delegation.

What is expected from the Mayor's Office when a large group like the Freiburg group (21 people) come to Madison? The Mayor's Office doesn't have any funds available for this, so discretionary funds are all that is left to help with expenses. Alfano has made it possible for the city to get rooms at The Concourse Hotel at a reduced rate of \$99.00 a night and the city has committed to paying for 2 rooms. Others are doing fundraising to help and we have asked the Madison Freiburg Sister City Committee to assist with meals. The Mayor increased the size of the budget for Sister Cities by \$3,000 for this kind of eventuality because in the past we have struggled to pay for these expenses. Alfano asked the committee to recommend requesting \$1,000 from the discretionary funds to pay for a bus for the delegation. A motion was made by Heinrich to approve the release of \$1,000 for this purpose and the motion was seconded by Carranza. The motion passed unanimously.

[31024](#) Sister City Collaboration Committee Makeup

Alfano suggested if anyone is approved as a sister city with Madison, they should be required to have a member on the SCCC. At the present time, East Timor is the only city that doesn't have a member on the committee. Alder Cnare would need to submit a resolution to the Common Council stating that they would not be eligible for funding if they were not a member of the committee. Gantner suggested having a conversation with someone from East Timor to see what they think about this. She will see if she can reach one of their members. Miley will let her know what the attendance requirements are for the committee.

[31025](#) Discretionary Funding Requests

This was already covered in Item 31023,

[31026](#) Prospective Sister Cities

Carranza would like to have regular updates from each sister city by attending the SCCC meeting twice a year, to be able to know what kind of work they are doing. Gantner said many of these groups are very small, like East Timor, and may not have many people that can do that. Alfano said he has modified the base funding request form which asks how specifically the money received will be spent and balance would be able to be carried forward. He will send a copy of the proposed funding request to members prior to the next meeting.

There have been three requests for sister city relationships recently:

\* Kumba, Cameroon has requested membership - Alfano said there is an African Association and a Cameroon Association in Madison interested and if they are, they can request the membership from our committee. The Kumba City Council sent the request to the Mayor of Madison. Kumba has a population of 144,268.

\* Kutaisi, Georgia requested a relationship with Madison. They currently have a sister city relationship with Columbia, Missouri. Kutaisi has a population of 194,000 and is the second largest city in Georgia. Several members of the committee felt they should check to see what kind of relationship Columbia has with Kutaisi before we consider their application.

\* A province in China has applied for membership. Gandara will get information regarding the name of the Madison/Chinese community organization to Alfano and will see if they would be interested in working with them. James stated there are so many cities in China like Madison. We would have to have a group or individual from that area in China, i.e, a Chinese student organization apply for the membership with Madison.

## REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS

[29582](#)

25th Anniversary Celebration of Sister City Program

The 25th Sister City Anniversary Reception will be held by the SCCC before the Common Council meeting on September 3rd at 5:00 outside of Room 201 of the City County Building. The committee should be ready to set up their individual table at 4:30. Each table should have "finger food" from their respective country to serve to council members and any handouts that would tell them what their individuals committees do. There should be enough food to feed between 50 and 75 people. Members are free to bring an easel to display items as well. Each sister city will be given \$50.00 toward their expenses from the city funds.

At 6:00 Alder Cnare will invite the Alders into the meeting so each Sister City can give a 5 minute presentation about their city. No audio visual presentations will be possible. The first agenda items will be the Sister City honoring resolutions beginning at 6:30. The Mayor of Freiburg will be present to say a few words. At 6:45 the Sister City members should break down their displays on their tables and are free to leave. No electricity will be available in the hallway outside of Room 201.

[27505](#)

Sister City Programs Reports

Tepatitlan - The mural artist is not coming to Madison due to a death in his family. Carranza is meeting with his committee soon and they will talk about their next plan.

Mantova - Miley reported the Madison delegation made a trip to Mantova in June for 2 days that included Mayor Soglin. They had a wonderful, whirlwind trip and were impressed with how much historical art and architecture they saw and were impressed how the Europeans are so supportive of their art. We don't have the same tradition in the US. The hospitality that Madison delegation received was incredible.

Freiburg - Miley reported that the second half of their June trip included a visit to Freiburg. They spent 5 days there and visited a solar center. Freiburg is known internationally for their efforts in sustainability and they are developing many solar techniques - their goal is to be off the grid by 2015. They are confident they can accomplish this. The city has its own vineyards and are known for their wonderful wines.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next SCCC meeting will be August 26th at 5:30 p.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by James, seconded by Zemliauskas-Juozevicius and was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.