



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft SISTER CITY COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

Monday, December 17, 2012

5:30 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room LL120 (Madison Municipal Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Alfano at 4:45 p.m.

Present: 5 -

Frank L. Alfano; Josephine H. Oyama-Miller; Carolyn A. Gantner; Daina P. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius and Bridget R. Maniaci

Absent: 4 -

Charles J. James; Amy R. Zastrow; Salvador A. Carranza and Enrique R. Gandara

Also present: Sabine Modershelm, Associate Professor UW Dept. of German

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Maniaci moved to approve the minutes subject to minor corrections; Gantner seconded the motion. The minutes from the November 26th were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS - None

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

[27082](#) Economic Contributor Worksheet

Alfano stated that each city will report the economic impact of each Sister City visit to the City Council through a one page summary, showing how many people went on the visits, where they visited and how much money was spent. This will be used instead of doing a spreadsheet since they can be so many variables in the information.

[27506](#) International Festival 2013

Alfano stated that all Sister Cities are registered for the festival and all fees have been paid from the 2012 SC funds.

[28603](#) International Day Display

Alfano stated that all SC displays will be on the second floor of the Overture Center, per Karra Beach at Overture. The International Festival will be held January 27, 2013 from 11:00 to 6:00 p.m.

[28595](#) Sister City Art Exhibit at Overture Center - January/February 2013

Gantner said art work has been received for the art exhibit from Mantova, Vilnius, Obihiro, Freiburg, Camaguey. She said there is a nice variety of different types of art. Alfano said he would ask Karin Wolf to put the art in the Madison Municipal Building lobby in January. Gantner said Overture will put a link on their website to the Sister City website. Lisa Olmsted will send the SC link to Beth Racette at Overture.

[28596](#) Visitors Gift Inventory

Alfano said he had been to Budget Signs to talk to them about gift ideas for the SC inventory. Items that can be ordered include: tote bags, cups, hats and key chains with lights with the City logo on them. The Mayor's Office will order medallions with the City Seal on them to be attached to pewter plates that Saily Miley has ordered. Those will be gifts for SC people from the Mayor along with the new City Keys (key chains) that the Mayor's Office recently ordered and received. These gifts will be paid for from the 2012 SC budget. Maniaci moved to purchase the gifts, Oyama-Miller seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

[28597](#) 2013 Funding Requests

Alfano stated there is \$12,800 in the Sister City fund. This money will be divided by 8 sister cities - \$1600.00 will be going to each one. \$1,000 will be considered base funding and the remaining \$600 will go to purchasing gifts, etc. Maniaci stated there are many more resources available to the committee than when it was originally started and wondered what might be done with the additional monies? Oyama-Miller said individual sister cities should be doing something individual projects with the funds - this could be a positive way for the City to be more involved with sister cities. Maniaci wondered if each city could have a community lecture series with the funding? She made a motion to refer this item to January meeting and in the meantime, invite all SC representatives to attend that meeting. Olmsted will send a notice to all representatives with the date of the January meeting. The motion was seconded by Oyama-Miller and passed unanimously.

27505

Sister City Programs Reports

Obihiro, Japan - Oyama-Miller reported their trip to Obihiro in September was awesome. She brought back gifts for Mayor Soglin and mentioned that the Economic Development books she took from the City were very well received by the Chamber of Commerce there. She also mentioned she has a full time student living with them that is going to the UW. There is also a student going to West High School that isn't living with them. She mentioned that Madison is looking for a teacher liaison. The person they have now is not engaged with the Japanese and she is currently looking for some one else to take the position (possibly from Beloit College.)

In 2013, there will be approximately 2500 students and mental health doctors coming to the U.S. in 2 or 3 different visits. The doctors are looking for help dealing with tsunami victims and people dealing with depression. People of Obihiro are looking forward to seeing Madison's new central library and The Edgewater when the remodeling is done since many of them have stayed there.

Arcatao, El Salvador - Gantner mentioned that there will be a group of students and professors from the UW going to Arcatao January 5 - 18th, 2013. There will also be a fundraising event at the Harmony Bar for Arcatao on February 10th. El Salvador had items at the Fair Trade Open House on December 1st and sold \$1,000 worth of items that goes directly to the artisans.

Vilnius, Lithuania - Zemliauskas-Juozevicius said they had a Christmas gathering on December 9th at Lake Edge Lutheran Church with 70 people of Lithuanian heritage present.

Mantova, Italy - Alfano stated Steano Guerresi, a composer/pianist from Italy is coming to Madison in January to give concerts at St. Mary's and Meriter Hospitals as well as closing the International Festival at Overture. In June of 2013, a youth group from Madison will be traveling to Mantova but will have to pay for their own air fare. The Mayor and Sally Miley have been invited to go on the same trip. There is currently a search going on for a musical youth group to participate in Italia Fest.

Freiburg - Sabine Modershelm, Associates Professor from the Department of German at the UW represented Charles James. She mentioned there is a scholarship available for one student to attend a semester of college in Freiburg worth \$600 euros. Two German students who are currently here at the UW are blogging back to Freiburg sharing their cultural experiences regarding food, transportation, etc and it's being very well received in Germany. Oyama-Miller said her Japanese student is blogging back to Japan as well.

[28598](#)

Video for City County Building Display Case

Gantner suggested that each SC bring pictures or a CD of their city to the next meeting so a looped video could be made (possibly by City Channel) to play in the City County Lobby Display Case. Right now, not all cities are represented and the 2 CD's that interview members of the SCCC are hard to hear since there are no speakers outside the case, so a visual display would work much better there.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting will be Monday, January 28. Olmsted will poll the committee to find out what time is best to meet - 4:30, 5:00 or 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Oyama-Miller moved to adjourn the meeting - the motion was seconded by Zemliauskas-Juozevicius and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.