



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes SISTER CITY COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

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Monday, March 23, 2015

5:30 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room LL-110 (Madison Municipal Building)

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by the chair Oyama-Miller at 5:30 pm.

**Present:** 8 - Frank L. Alfano; Josephine H. Oyama-Miller; Carolyn A. Gantner; Daina P. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius; Charles J. James; Salvador A. Carranza; Lauren Cnare and Diane L. Farsetta

**Absent:** 2 - Jon F. Heinrich and Enrique R. Gandara

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

James made a motion to approve the minutes of February 23, 2015 with corrections. Carranza seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

### REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[37724](#)

Sister City Program Reports March 2015

**Vilnius:** Zemliauskas-Juozevicius reported that Lithuania celebrated its second Independence Day on March 11th. The first traditionalist day is February 16th. The March 11th independence is from the Soviets. It's been 25 years so they celebrated with a dinner/meeting at the University Club with Lithuanian Food. All week from March 9th to March 15th it was Lithuanian Week at the University Club so they had a Lithuanian Fair. On May 2nd they will hold their annual banquet at the Madison Club and the speaker is a Lithuanian who is a Professor of Economics at Gettysburg College. He will be talking about energy security challenges and opportunities for Lithuanians.

**Mantova:** Alfano reported that they are holding elections next month for a new Mayor. Until they get settled, they won't be doing much.

**Ainara:** Farsetta reported that they are gearing up for their annual Sister City

Bike Ride which is May 17th. They do it the Sunday closest to the second Independence Day for East Timor which is May 20, 2002, when they became fully independent. They take off near Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and go about 13 miles around Lake Monona. Mike, the City Administrator in Middleton, returned from East Timor last week where he was part of a US State Department organized delegation of City Administrators. They had discussions around local governance. They look forward to meeting with him and getting details of how it went. They are hoping that he is interested in being involved with their Sister City program or potentially Middleton has some interest in doing a co-Sister City.

Arcatao: Gantner reported that they will be hosting the US/El Salvador Sister Cities Annual Conference this fall. Members of Sister Cities from around the country that are connected with El Salvador will be coming here. It is very likely that there will be visitors from El Salvador. They are still planning but it will probably be in October.

Tepa: Carranza reported that they are working on the craft beer showcase. There will be a delegation from Tepa coming to the Dairy Expo. They requested a letter as part of the Sister City relationship. There will be several visitors. They will take them to the Dairy Farm in Marshfield where Enrique always takes visitors. Carranza has instructed the visitors to book their hotels now and they are working on it.

Freiburg: James passed out copies of the Badger Herald which had articles of the Sister Cities. James reported that a delegation is going to Freiburg in June for their Sister City Fair. They have a festival every couple of years and one of the Madison members will be spear heading the delegation. There are several students over there that will run the booth. They will try to get as much material (flyers, brochures, etc.) on Madison as possible. They are trying to connect with other organizations in the area that have connections with the German speaking world to maintain routine contact with them. Because of their connection with Dane County organizations, there is a delegation going to Germany in June that they are helping out with. The big event this year is the Sister City Fair in Freiburg in June.

Obihiro: Oyama-Miller reported that she has a delegation of two coming. In April, a retired social worker working with NAMI of Dane County and NAMI of Wisconsin will be visiting. There is a group going in October and a group coming here in August. They are gearing up with the transition of their election, which is City Council Members. There are a number of them that are newer. Because Madison is the main contact with not just Obihiro, but the greater area of Japan, there are many connections being made. A representative in Obihiro was found having an affair with another member of the legislature who happened to be married. She was the co-chair of agriculture and she was stripped of her position so the question is whether or not she can retain her seat.

[37725](#)

Financial Update March 2015

Oyama-Miller reported that the Mayor's Office has received a W-9 from everybody except Vilnius.

[37726](#)

Fundraiser Cookbook Update March 2015

Farsetta reported that the main thing to share with the group is what they would like each Sister City to send them for their 10-15 page section in the book. Farsetta will send it around via email but they are looking for 3-5 pictures from the Sister City, hopefully at least one that is food related (people eating food, making food, buying food, etc.) and 8-10 recipes with an emphasis on food that an average-resident would eat. These should be a good variety of breakfast, main dishes, side dishes, desserts, etc. Other things they would like are a brief history of the relationship between Madison and the Sister City that is about 250-300, making sure that it is not written out of date. They will sprinkle other factoids throughout the cookbook (what kind of food and drink the city is known for, language and food terms, how long it gets to take to the Sister City, etc.). The workgroup decided that the book will be about 150 pages total. There will be a glossary at the end and different chapters for each city. Farsetta talked with a designer at work who will work with her a bit on the cookbook design. Oyama-Miller suggested talking about having a section on Madison food. Carranza asked for an estimate on printing. He told them about 20-25 pages in color and the rest in black and white. Carranza will check with Dane County Printing. He went to Wells Printing, American Printing, and another company on Badger Road. There is another printing place on Willy Street that Carranza will check on. He will also check on Insty Prints and Econo Prints.

[37727](#)

2014 Sister City Annual Report Update March 2015

Oyama-Miller stated that the Annual Reports need to be turned in. On the report you should list your activities done in 2014. Oyama-Miller stated that Mantova was they only one to turn it in last time she checked. Once the W-9's and the Annual Reports are received, the base funding checks can go out.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Committee discussed filling the Council seat once Alder Cnare is off of the committee and thanked Alder Cnare for her work. Oyama-Miller would like to send a letter to the Mayor thanking her on behalf of the Sister Cities.

Oyama-Miller discussed a question that has come up in terms of where communities from the Sister Cities live in Madison and the potential to highlight these groups. She would like this to be a project going forward.

Oyama-Miller has received requests via Linked In from African countries interested in Sister Cities.

[37728](#)

2015 Base Funding Requests Update March 2015

Covered under item 37727.

[37729](#)

Tepa Delegation Visit for 2015 World Dairy Expo March 2015

Covered under item 37724.

**ADJOURNMENT**

James made a motion to adjourn. Farsetta seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.