



# 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, March 27, 2017

5:30 PM 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Room 108 (City County  
Building)

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**Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm**

**Present:** 9 - Frank L. Alfano; Carolyn A. Gantner; Charles J. James; Jon F. Heinrich;  
Salvador A. Carranza; Samba Baldeh; Enrique R. Gandara; Diane L.  
Farsetta and Musa Jallow

**Absent:** 2 - Josephine H. Oyama-Miller and Daina P. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius

### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Called to order by chair at 5:35 pm

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of February 20, 2017 approved unanimously on a motion by James,  
seconded by Carranza.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

## REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[46552](#)

### Sister City Program Reports

Freiburg - Charles reported that they received a permit from the Capitol Police to set up an information table at the Farmer's Market in June, July, and August this coming summer. Hand outs of the information booklet that all nine of our sisters made for the International Festival in February will be available at their table. Another intern from Freiburg, Laura Pätzold, will be working in Mayor Soglin's office this summer. They are making progress on a planned visit to Freiburg on June 23rd and 24th as part of the 30th anniversary of their "sisterhood". The major event this past month was a visit by Bülent Gençdemir from Freiburg. He is a documentary film maker who was given the assignment to visit all twelve of Freiburg's sister cities around the world and combine his visual impressions together into a documentary film. His first stop was Madison. The organization's annual dinner was held on February 22nd at the University Club on the UW campus.

Tepatitlán - Sal reported that a member of the organization recently visited Tepatitlán as part of their arts project with school children. This project involves art supplies and instruction. The eyes examine and eye glass project is still in progress. The project includes a team of doctors visiting Tepatitlán. The Tepatitlán mural that hung in the closed Madison Municipal Building may find a new temporary home at Madison East High School. They are still making progress on establishing nonprofit status for the organization.

Mantova - Bad weather resulted in the cancellation of the scheduled Madison visit of Italy's consulate general from Chicago. Frank said the visit will be rescheduled for June. Frank announced a visit to Mantova for a Madison delegation to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the relationship. The trip, planned for 10 days this September, will coincide with a road rally in Mantova of vintage Italian race cars. The delegation will also visit Venice and Verona.

Arcatao - Through the combined efforts of Madison Arcatao Sister City Project (MASCP) and US/El Salvador Sister Cities (USESSC), visas have been secured for USESSC staff members Zulma and Victor to visit the U.S. Their visit is part of an annual gathering of U.S. and Salvadorian representatives and activists. Zulma and Victor will also visit Madison to do workshops and public presentations. Carolyn said that U.S. Representative Mark Pocan supported the visa effort sending a letter to the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador in advance of the required interview of Zulma and Victor. Sister City colleagues from Chicago and in Massachusetts and their U.S. Congressional representatives also lent support to the visa effort.

Camagüey - A group of sixteen individuals from Madison just completed a visit to Camaguey in early March. They brought donations for the community organizations we support including the chamber orchestra, provincial band, ballet and video arts school. The group also visited Cuba's eastern provinces (Holguin, Guantanamo and Santiago de Cuba). Our sister organization, the Wisconsin Medical Project, packed a shipping container of medical equipment and supplies on March 24th for shipment to Camagüey.

Kanifing - Musa said they are planning an organization luncheon for July 8th and are currently evaluating venues for this event that is expected to have 200 attendees. Of interest to the Celebrate Madison Sister Cities work group was the \$11,000 cost estimate received from the Edgewater by Musa for their event. They are looking at other venues and Sal volunteered to obtain information about Union South for Musa. Kanifing will participate in African Fest on May 25th at O'Keefe Middle School, a ½ day event. The organization has received state authorization for nonprofit status and is awaiting federal 501(c) 3 acknowledgement.

Ainaro - "Taste of Timor" is set for Saturday May 20th from 4:30 to 6:30 PM at the Goodman Community Center. Tickets are available on the Madison-Ainaro website, <http://aideasttimor.org/>. Rick Scott, former USAID mission director in Timor-Leste and UW-Madison graduate, will be featured, through live connection, to discuss the impact that the Trump administrations proposed cuts to the state department budget would have for Timor-Leste. Diane also reported that grants have been provided to students to participate at the Green School Education Center and financial support has been given for sustainability initiatives. Both are important projects in Timor-Leste for her organization.

[46553](#)

International Festival follow-up

Overall participants were pleased with the event.

[46554](#)

Status of SCCC handouts from International Fest

Remaining copies were given to Charles for distribution at the Farmer's Market

[46555](#)

Event Work Group Report

April 2018 is recommended as an appropriate time for an initial event after evaluating community and City of Madison calendars and considering time to plan and organize a quality event. The work group felt a Saturday would be best with April 14th as the preferred date and April 21st as an alternative. The work group will develop additional details concerning cost, sponsor support, keynote speaker recommendations and suggested venues in advance of the April SCCC meeting. Sal will provide the work group with a template he has developed and used for event planning that will aid in this effort.

Frank raised the question of how each organization could be compensated for their ticket sales and, if the event is successful, how will the proceeds be distributed. Equity was acknowledged as being important as it pertains to the number of tickets each organization sells. Possible approaches mentioned were a minimum ticket purchase requirement for every organization and/or a set amount (\$10) returned to each organization for each ticket they sell. Possible use of proceeds from the event discussed included funding of joint projects, setting aside a reserve for the next annual event and providing some

funds to each organization to support their activities. These were acknowledged as good suggestions and future issues for SCCC to discuss and decide.

Another important issue brought up is the management of funds for the event e.g. support from sponsors, ticket sales proceeds, payment obligations. Sal suggested that a nonprofit organization with a bank account could establish a separate account for Celebrate Madison Sister Cities as a way of managing finances.

It was also recommended that invitations to this event be provided to our sister cities recognizing that their participation would be very desirable.

[46556](#)

Cook Book Update

Jo was not able to attend however, Diane reported that the issue Jo wanted to raise involves selecting a standard format for all sister city chapters. Currently there is no uniformity. It was recognized that this needs to be addressed at the next meeting.

[46557](#)

Display Case Plans

After discussing a number of different options the SCCC decided to establish a 12 month schedule for use of the display case that would provide 1 month for each of the nine organizations and a 3 month period (November, December, January) with a joint display. During the joint display period the large television would be removed from the case to provide additional space. This approach was approved unanimously on a motion by Alfano, seconded by Farsetta.

Additional details that still need to be established are the assigned month for each organization, the start date for the new approach and a written set of procedures that would improve communications to avoid periods when the case is empty

[46558](#)

Statement on Immigration Draft

Carolyn, and MASCP member Robert Skloot, prepared a statement that was reviewed at the February SCCC meeting. The statement has been revised and felt to be appropriate. A few additional edits were suggested. Frank asked that individual organization representatives not be included as signatories.

Initially we had discussed providing this statement to the Common Council for formal approval. Samba advised that since the Common Council has already acted on a statement they would not consider formal action on our statement. However, Samba will explore what approach can be taken to have our statement acknowledged and approved for posting on the sister city web page

## NEW BUSINESS

[46559](#)

Meeting dates for rest of 2017

Meeting schedule for the remainder of the year accepted without comment.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

SCCC members were requested to provide their sister city program reports to Jasmine Brey by the Thursday before scheduled monthly meetings. This would greatly assist accurate recording and hopefully streamline this part of our agenda. Members should also bring copies of their reports for distribution at the SCCC monthly meetings.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn approved unanimously on a motion by Alfano, seconded by James.