



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft SISTER CITY COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

Monday, July 24, 2017

5:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by chair.

Present: 10 - Frank L. Alfano; Carolyn A. Gantner; Daina P. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius;
Charles J. James; Jon F. Heinrich; Salvador A. Carranza; Samba Baldeh;
Enrique R. Gandara; Diane L. Farsetta and Musa Jallow

Absent: 1 - Josephine H. Oyama-Miller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of May 22, 2017 approved unanimously on a motion by Alfano,
seconded by Farsetta.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[48116](#)

Sister City Program Reports

Tepatitlán - Sal reported that they are making good progress establishing an eye clinic in Tepatitlán. The project, a cooperative venture with the Madison Lions Club, will have a delegation in November to further progress on establishing a physical location as well as providing eye exams locally.

Camagüey - President Trump's changes in U.S. policy regarding Cuba, introduced in June 2017, do not significantly change the measures President Obama introduced. Embassies in both countries will remain open. Direct commercial flights and cruises from the U.S. will still operate. Travelers will still be able to spend unlimited amounts of money on the island. Americans will continue to be free to send unlimited amounts of money to Cubans on the island. The "wet-foot, dry-foot policy" will not be reintroduced. Bilateral agreements on issues such as combating drug trafficking and mitigating oil

spills will remain in place. The economic embargo on Cuba also remains in place.

However, Americans wishing to travel to or do business with Cuba will now face much tighter restrictions. Fewer American travelers will visit Cuba and the prohibition on individual travel will also hurt U.S. commercial airlines and cruise companies.

MCSCA trips to Cuba will continue and do not appear to be threatened by these changes.

Freiburg - A delegation from Madison participated in Freiburg's (Partnerstadtmesse) Sister City Fair on June 23 and 24 in Freiburg. The members of the delegation were Eric Lewandowski, Gina Lewandowski, Charles James, Dick Kottenbeutel, Carolyn Hackler, Jim Lattis, Jen Lattis, Tony Lattis, and Mitch Lattis. We took along brochures, bumper stickers, maps, and other information material to distribute. We had a retractable banner made for Freiburg with images of Madison. We're working on one for Madison with images of Freiburg. A local brewer brewed a special beer for us. We were one of the cosponsors of a concert tour through Germany by the Madison College Big Band. They performed several public concerts plus did workshops with local high school jazz bands.

We'll be setting up an information table at the Farmers Market every Saturday morning until the end of August. We've been handing out copies of the info packet that we put together for the International Festival in February. We routinely get five FAQs: 1) What is a sister city and how many does Madison have? 2) Why Freiburg? 3) Are you from Freiburg? 4) How does a city become a sister city? 5) Are you a travel agency?

Mantova - We have a delegation travelling to Mantova in September to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Madison-Mantova sister city relationship. While there, we will be discussing the possibility of an internship program between UW-Madison and businesses in Mantova and a student exchange program.

Arcatao - Two visitors from El Salvador, Cinita Gonzales and Zulma Tobar, will visit Madison on October 2nd and 3rd. The program for their visit, including presentations, is under development. The U.S. El Salvador National Sister Cities organization is co-sponsoring their visit. Arcatao is planning a home for the elderly and MASCP is considering ways to support this important project. In the future all MASCP newsletters will be sent electronically, a cost and environmental savings. The final print newsletter will be in August.

Ainaro - Diane said they have received information from the U.S. Embassy in Dili, capital city of Timor-Leste, that the U.S. State Department requires schools receiving Timorese students on U.S. scholarships to submit certain information. Diane indicated that they are attempting to facilitate collection of this information from UW-Madison so that Timorese students would be able to attend school here.

Kanifing - Musa reported that they now have nonprofit status for their organization. Their website has been launched (<http://madisonkanifing.org/>),

which needs to be added to the City of Madison sister city site. They are organizing a fund raising event and community launching of their organization on September 16th at the E. Washington Ave. Comfort Inn and Suites from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. An Evening in Partnership with Madison-Kanifing Sister City will start with a social gathering, networking and sampling of Gambian cuisine. The guest speaker is Dr. Baba Galleh, professor at La Salle University in Philadelphia. Before coming into exile in the U.S. in September 2000, Dr. Galleh was a journalist and editor of two major newspapers in The Gambia.

[48118](#)

Cook Book Update

Sal has been in contact with Lucia Nunez, Madison College's vice president for Equity, Inclusion and Community Engagement regarding final editing of the cook book.

[48120](#)

Celebrate Madison Sister Cities Event

The work group will convene before the August SCCC meeting. We hope to provide updates on speakers, venue and costs at that meeting. The focus is now on Madison College as the event site and to provide catering with an international flavor. Sal has been instrumental in making arrangements to meet with Lucia Nunez to discuss these arrangements before the August SCCC meeting.

[48119](#)

Statement on Immigration

A motion to defer action on an immigration statement was unanimously approved, proposed by Alfano, seconded by James.

A statement on immigration has been drafted for placement on the sister city page. The statement is intended to support the recent action by the Common Council as well as express the views of the SCCC. Final edits are needed and after this is accomplished all committee members will receive a copy from Carolyn to facilitate discussions in their organizations. Members would like that opportunity before deciding whether the statement should be posted.

Many good concerns were raised and the group felt it best to defer at this time pending distribution of the amended statement and opportunity for further discussion with their groups.

NEW BUSINESS

[48121](#) SCCC vacancy/at-large seat

Lori DiPrete Brown, Associate Director for Education and Engagement, UW-Madison Global Health Institute has expressed an interest in filling the at-large vacancy on the SCCC. Diane has invited Lori to attend the August meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn approved unanimously on a motion by Alfano at 6:45pm, seconded by Farsetta.