



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Draft SISTER CITY COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

Monday, August 28, 2017

5:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Meeting called by Chair, Carolyn Gantner at 5:35.

Present: 7 - Frank L. Alfano; Josephine H. Oyama-Miller; Carolyn A. Gantner; Daina P. Zemliauskas-Juozevicius; Charles J. James; Salvador A. Carranza and Diane L. Farsetta

Absent: 3 - Jon F. Heinrich; Samba Baldeh and Musa Jallow

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Carranza moved, James seconded. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[48554](#)

Sister City Program Reports August 2017

Madison-Obihiro: reported that their report is part of the agenda and was submitted previously as requested in prior meetings.

Tepatitlan: Carranza reported that plans for the eye clinic project continues and they hope to have a physical delegation go to Tepa in November.

Freiburg: James reported on the recent visit to Freiburg by the Madison delegation. He also mentioned if any other sister city would like to present with Freiburg at their last farmer's stand- it will be on the last Saturday in August. He also mentioned the tribute that he will present later in the agenda.

Mantova: Alfano discussed the upcoming delegation to Mantova in September- there will be 10 people going. James will be part of the delegation. He also continued information about the upcoming internship program- more details to be discussed while they are in Mantova.

Arcatao: Gantner reported about the October national gathering in Chicago for

representatives of US/El Salvador sister cities. Members of MASCP will be attending. She also discussed the early October events in Madison Involving visitors from El Salvador who are part of the US-El Salvador National Sister Cities organization. MASCP continues to be involved in the project regarding the home for the elderly.

Ainara - Farsetta reported that they are continuing to work with the UW and U.S. Embassy in Timor-Leste to get scholarship information and materials to Timorese students interested and able to study abroad. She also reported on the impact of a recent small grant to Permatil, a sustainable agriculture and environmental NGO, which installed two school gardens and ran two school garden workshops in Ainara that reached 60 people from 16 primary and secondary schools in the area.

Vilnius- Daina reported on her trip to Lithuania. The organization continues to facilitate cultural activities as well as have their annual picnic which was well attended.

[48555](#)

Cook Book update August 2017

Oyama-Miller discussed the variation in opening statements by each sister city organization. She said that more uniformity and conformity is needed in these introductory paragraphs to make the cookbook cohesive. In the beginning, Oyama-Miller tried to edit the material sent to her by Farsetta (original chair) but discovered that it was impossible to edit another sister city's information. She asked that she would like each program to review the styles of Camaguey and Obihiro who kept to the 300-word count as requested by original committee.

SCCC members asked that Oyama-Miller resend the original formatting parameters as set by Farsetta's workgroup as well as each sister city's original materials so that they can edit and have more discussion in a future meeting. Oyama-Miller agreed to do so as requested before the next SCCC meeting in September.

Oyama-Miller also mentioned that original workgroup also requested that all recipes be in both metric and US measurements. More discussion is needed about this. Oyama-Miller also said that many of the photos needed to be of a better quality if they are to be reproduced. She will try to send a copy of an adequate picture/pixels.

[48556](#)

Celebrate Madison Sister City event August 2017

Carranza said that he met with Lucia Nunez-Madison College and reported that she was excited to have the College work with SCCC on this event. Carranza toured the Madison College facility and agreed that an event could nicely work there. He asked Nunez to check the college's calendar as to availability as soon as possible.

It was suggested that if Madison College is selected, we could ask the culinary department to make some of the recipes from the cookbook and that possibly this event could be the "kickoff" for the cookbook as well. Carranza could work with Nunez and the Culinary/Catering staff on this concept. Oyama-Miller

also agreed to help as she has had discussions with culinary staff regarding the cookbook as well.

James said that he and Baldeh met and worked on a list of potential speakers but nothing could be solidified until a venue and date could be set. We discussed possibly pushing back the event if necessary, to secure a good speaker and venue - that the quality of the event was more important than having it specifically in April 2018.

[48557](#)

SCCC vacancy/at-large seat August 2017

Farsetta reported that she felt that potential nominee (from UW Global Health) might not be the best because of her busy schedule. Individual was supposed to attend this evening's meeting but that did not happen. It was discussed that everyone should look for other potential community members to nominate as soon as possible.

[48558](#)

Immigration Statement August 2017

Gantner presented the immigration statement to SCCC members. Discussion was that the statement was too detailed and long. Alfano suggested eliminating the majority of the 2nd paragraph and more closely parallel the statement made by Mayor Soglin and adopted by the City Council. More discussion by all of the committee members followed. Farsetta opposed removing from the statement the only mention of the anti-Muslim bias of the policies being protested.

Gantner agreed to edit the statement and then have it recirculated to the SCCC before the next meeting for approval.

Motion made by Farsetta and seconded by Carranza. Motion adopted unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

[48559](#)

Madison Youth Choirs request

Gantner mentioned and referred to the email sent to her by the director of the Madison Youth Choirs.

SCCC members felt that it was a very interesting and potential collaboration. Alfano moved and James seconded that Gantner extend an invitation to the director to attend a future SCCC meeting for more discussion and potential ways to collaborate. More details needed as to what SCCC involvement could be.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

[48560](#)

A tribute in remembrance of John Jacoby (former SCCC and Madison/Freiburg member who passed away this month)

James read a tribute that he wrote in honor and remembrance of the late John Jacoby, former member of the Madison-Freiburg Sister Cities and an original member of the SCCC. It was a very fitting tribute to John. Alfano and others remembered John's contribution to setting up the sister cities' program with the City. James mentioned that he will send the written tribute to John's widower, Marge. SCCC members concluded that this would be very nice.

ADJOURNMENT

Oyama-Miller moved and Farsetta seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.