



# 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, February 26, 2018

5:30 PM

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

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Chair, Carolyn Gantner, at 5:31 PM.

### OTHERS PRESENT

None.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of January 22, 2018 approved unanimously on a motion by Oyama-Miller, se-conded by James. One correction was offered by Jo. The visit of Obihiro students in March was not a certainty as reported but just a possibility.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

### NEW BUSINESS

None.

### REGULAR BUSINESS

#### [50514](#)

Sister City Program Reports

Tepatitlán - The project to create a mural in the Tepatitlán history museum by Madison artists has been postponed for now with the expectation that it will proceed at a later date.

Camaguey - The Madison-Camaguey Sister City Association (MCSCA) has selected Centro Hispano as the new location for their bi-monthly meetings.

Vilnius - Annual Christmas Eve celebration held at St. Dennis School in

December 2017 with 50 in attendance including Santa. 2018 marks the centennial of Lithuania's restored independence (from czarist Russian rule). Madison Vilnius Sister City (MVSC) will be conducting a year celebration which commenced with a banquet at Promega Corporation on February 16, the date of independence.

Zaibas, Lithuanian Folk Dancers of Madison, MVSC is the umbrella organization, per-formed at the International Fest on February 24.

Lithuanian Week is March 5-9, at the University Club. Lithuanian cuisine will be served during lunch.

Other upcoming events include a May 12 performance by our affiliate organization, "Sostines Balsai" (Capital Voices), at 1:00 PM at the State Capital rotunda first floor. This is part of an event, "The Singing Revolution" involving choirs from Chicago, Mil-waukee and Minneapolis performing a Lithuanian cantata telling the story of the struggle for independence. The cantata author will be in attendance and a reception in the Senate Chamber will follow the performance. Also, MVSC will hold its annual banquet that evening at the Madison Club with guest speaker Guntis Smidchens, head of the Baltic Studies Center at the University of Washington - Seattle and author of the cantata to be performed that afternoon. Information about all events can be found at [www.madisonvilnius.org](http://www.madisonvilnius.org).

Kanifing - Kanifing will participate in Africa Celebration Day at O'Keefe Middle School on May 24. Preliminary plans for a trip to Kanifing at the end of April or early May are underway.

Obihiro - A trip is set for July involving 10 high school students from the greater Madison area to visit Japan with 5 days in Tokyo and 4 days home stay in Obihiro. A Japanese language speech contest was held at the UW Red Gym with the winner participating in a regional event in Chicago in March. Obihiro is a sponsor of the local event. Five Obihiro health care professionals are visiting to learn more about our approach to senior care, an important issue in Japan, with visits to public and private facilities in Dane County. An exhibit of art work from Obihiro is planned for October this year at the American Family Building.

Arcatao - Carolyn reported that Madison Arcatao Sister City Project (MASCP) had been focusing on preparations for the International Fest and considered the event to have positive community outreach.

Ainaro - Diane reminded everyone about the "Taste of Timor" fundraiser the morning of Sunday, May 20, Timor-Leste's Independence Day. She said that their Timorese partner on the school garden initiative (Permatil) is doing strategic planning for their organization, so they will have a better sense after they're done how the sister city group can continue to help.

Freiburg - Charles reminded everyone that their annual meeting is scheduled for February 28 at the University Club and was interested what SCCC members were planning on attending. He also reported that they have received their Farmer's Market permit for the June thru September period this year.

[50515](#)

Celebrate Madison's Sister Cities - Work Group Report

A brief update was given on sponsorship requests, outreach, booklet preparation and Mayor's invitation letter. Diane nicely volunteered to prepare a Facebook event page. The major preparations needed are set with the Doyle's committed to speak, the Mayor providing the welcoming address and the Madison Youth Choir performing. Ticket sales are underway and everyone was encouraged to begin reaching out to their or-ganizations and other interested groups.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

[50516](#)

International Festival Follow Up

Members were generally positive about their experience this year and agree this is a worthwhile community event to participate in.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn approved unanimously on a motion by Oyama-Miller, seconded by James. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.