



# 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, April 23, 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 5:35 pm.

**Present:** 9 - Frank L. Alfano; Josephine H. Oyama-Miller; Carolyn A. Gantner; Daina P. Zemlauskas-Juozevicius; Charles J. James; Salvador A. Carranza; Samba Baldeh; Jonathan S. Solari and Diane L. Farsetta

**Absent:** 2 - Jon F. Heinrich and Musa Jallow

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of March 26, 2018 meeting approved unanimously without amendment on a motion offered by Alfano and seconded by Zemlauskas-Juozevicius.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

### NEW BUSINESS

[51266](#)

WORT Opportunity

Jan Miyasaki, host of WORT 89.9 fm's Eight O'Clock Buzz, offered to do monthly interviews with Sister City contacts, after interviewing several to promote the "Celebrate Sister Cities" event. Diane and Daina are scheduled for May, to promote their groups' events next month. Others can sign up for subsequent months, on the first or second Wednesday. Freiburg is interested in June, Arcatao in July and Teptitlan in September. Carolyn will coordinate by email.

[51267](#)

Ethiopia Sister City Interest

People at the “Celebrate Sister Cities” event expressed interest in establishing a sister city in Ethiopia; there is already a UW program that’s welcoming visitors in May. Jo discusses some history of interest being expressed and says asking them to fill out the online form early is helpful. Frank reminds that there must be groups involved in both cities and the Madison group can’t be solely UW.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

[51253](#)

Sister City Program Reports April 2018

**Ainaro** - The group continues to organize their annual “Taste of Timor” fundraiser, May 20 (Timor-Leste’s independence day) from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Goodman Center. In addition to food and music and a silent auction, there will be video updates from Timor-Leste, including a remarkable short about LGBT rights activism there.

**Tepatitlan** - The mural has been moved from the municipal building to East High School, with a lending agreement until 2020. The group will do an unveiling event.

**Freiburg** - No report, but wondering who to talk to at the city about the location of the Freiburg mosaics that had been in front of the municipal building. Karin Wolf suggested.

**Vilnius** - The group continues to organize their May 12 “Singing Revolution” event at the Capitol Rotunda at 1 pm. The composer of the cantata will be interviewed on WPR the previous day. The group will have a banquet at the Madison Club the evening of May 12, with a singer as well as speaker.

**Mantova** - During the city representative from Mantova Adriana’s visit for the “Celebrate Sister Cities” event, the group also organized a productive full-day meeting with limnology contacts at UW. Current Mantova leadership is interested in reviving a previously discussed idea to have an exchange with the UW to improve lake quality in Mantova.

**Arcatao** - The group has a delegation in Arcatao now, with healthcare professionals and students, and is planning another in June with state Rep. Chris Taylor focused on women’s issues. Jonathan and Carolyn might also participate in that delegation. The Progressive magazine also ran an article on the anti-mining initiative and the group’s involvement.

**Obihiro** - The group recently hosted a delegation to study senior care facilities, touring local long-term care and UW medical facilities. The group will be hosting a high school delegation to Obihiro and Tokyo in July, and fundraising in support of the students’ trips with an essay competition and “scope” night at the East Towne Culver’s on May 15, from 4 to 8 pm. The group is also planning a mental health delegation in the fall and a student exchange with Obihiro students.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 51254

#### Celebrate Madison's Sister Cities April 2018

Refer to Jon's summary of feedback on the event. All agree that it was a good first event, with 99 people in attendance despite the weather. Appreciation to Samba for the idea and Jon for spearheading the event organizing. Wide acclamation for speakers, food and program booklets. Agreed to use a different online ticket vendor (Eventbrite or Isthmus possibilities) and have clearer day-of roles and program schedule next time. Suggestion to have sister city tables up front, not many people visited them. Will revisit question of how to disburse proceeds when full budget is known. Suggestion of making a small donation to Madison Youth Choirs. Jon and Carolyn are sending thanks to speakers, Youth Choir, Adriana from Mantova, county (which sent proclamation), event sponsors and MATC, along with extra booklets. Question of how to handle email addresses collected via online ticket sales; follow up to encourage involvement with individual sister city groups and/or create SCCC database? Will discuss 2019 plans at next meeting, as we want to give ourselves more time to organize the next time around.

Related point of contacting Mayor's office to disburse this year's budget allocations; had earlier decided to wait until after "Celebrate Sister Cities" event, to ensure we could cover event expenses.

### 51262

#### Dane Dances Update

Carolyn talked with Al Cooper, who clarified we wouldn't have to do anything besides sit at the welcome table. Our groups could have handouts at the event and would be recognized in between musical acts. The group is interested in August 24, when VO5 and Group Candela will be performing. Jonathan will coordinate with Al Cooper on the event.

### 51263

#### Election of officers

Delayed from usual January timeline due to "Celebrate Madison's Sister Cities" event. Frank nominates Charles as the new Chair and Daina as Vice chair for a term of one year, with the intention that Daina will then serve as Chair. Jo seconds. Passes with 6 yeses and 2 abstentions (Charles and Daina). All express appreciation to Carolyn for her contributions as Chair.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carolyn asks people to respond to her email about possible alternate meeting days, since Samba has a conflict with other committee meetings. Also, the SCCC May meeting falls on Memorial Day; Charles will ask Jasmine to send out a scheduling poll to find an alternate day.

## ADJOURNMENT

Sal moves to adjourn at 7:04 pm, seconded by Frank and passed unanimously.