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SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

**Administrative Conference Room, TOURISM Santa Fe
201 West Marcy Street
505-955-6707
4:00 to 5:00 PM**

Goals of the Sister Cities Committee:

- More effectively market Sister Cities and what they do
- Develop educational programs in schools
- Strengthen relationships with existing Sister Cities
- Involve greater community in work and activities of Sister Cities
- Re-enforce and build existing relationships through trade and tourism efforts

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a) December 21, 2016
5. Report of Chair
6. Reports & Updates
 - a) Young Artist Showcase in Santa Fe (Jeff Case)
 - b) Culture Connects Santa Fe: Cultural Cartography
7. Committee Reports
8. Adjourn

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Sister Cities Committee
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Adjourn/Signature Page	There being no further business to come before the Sister Cities Committee, Mr. Rubenstein moved to adjourn at 5:05 pm, second by Mr. Olivas, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	Page 5

**SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 15, 2017
4:00 pm to 5:05 pm**

Goals of the Sister Cities Committee

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Sister Cities Committee meeting was called to order by the Chair, Carol Robertson-Lopez at 4:00 pm; Administrative Conference Room, Tourism Santa Fe. A quorum is reflected under roll call.

2. ROLL CALL

Present:

Carol Robertson-Lopez
Dr. Jeff Case
Bernard Rubenstein
Arthur Olivas
Rudy Fernandez
Ling Tong

Not Present:

Kim Song, Alternate, Excused
Carol Moore, Excused
Clara Padilla-Andrews, Excused
Gilbert Delgado

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Fernandez moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Mr. Rubenstein, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rubenstein moved to approve the minutes of December 21, 2016, second by Mr. Fernandez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

5. REPORT OF CHAIR

Move report after presentations.

6. REPORTS & UPDATES

- a. Young Artist Showcase in Santa Fe (Jeff Case)
Dr. Case report: Young Artists Showcase is from Sister Cities International in Washington, DC. We did this program two years ago; we got one student from

the school for Classics and Technology. This year Dr. Case did something different and informed the committee members that there is an exhibition that is touring the country. It is spending 4 weeks in each city that was selected and Santa Fe is one of the cities. We have received 4 boxes of artwork, last year's winner's artwork. (Will send e-mail with attachments) In the exhibit were 20 items; about 60 items were pieces of writing, poetry and essays, poster board and 14 pieces of visual artwork. Dr. Case broke the exhibit in to two pieces, one for Mandela School and one for New Mexico School for the Arts. The Chair and Dr. Case visited these schools in December with the intent to get them more involved with Sister Cities. Ms. Cindy Montoya from NM School of Arts and her staff were very receptive. Exhibit is currently in the classrooms. We hope to generate more enthusiasm. We need to have our entries by May 1st

Corina Hurn and Susana – Mandela Faculty – Dr. Case met with Ms. Hurn and he gave her half of the exhibit and it is in the classrooms. It would be nice to have the students do an essay or a piece of art. Collect all visuals by the 18th of April. We would like to have at least ten entries. Chair asked who would make the selection? It might be Dr. Case or possibly some of the teachers he is associated with. Ms. Garcia y Griego will put some thought in to the process for selection and either Rob or Debra will respond. The Chair commented that the pictures are huge and a great visual; students were excited to see them. The Chair said that all students are looking forward to building their portfolio. It is a contest and it was exciting to think they could have their work travel the country and there is a \$1,000 prize for each winner in each category. This falls #2 under the Sister City goals.

Kids will have their own Instagram account. 3rd party handling the adjudication of the film and the students will enter through this process. Dr. Case noted that he would need help mid-April to hold some type of ceremony. Dr. Case has spoken to Councilor Ives and the Chair asked that we get this on the City Council agenda for presentation. Dr. Case said he does not know how many entries we will have. Mr. Olivas asked that the committee members be given the date as soon as it is known. Dr. Case stated that Washington is scheduled for May 1, 2017. Dr. Case said the exhibit needs to go to California next by Fed Ex and asked if the city can pay for this. Ms. Garcia y Griego stated that the city can do that. Mr. Olivas said it would be nice to have photos the next time for those non-participating schools. Ms. Garcia y Griego said that they are on the Facebook page as well as over 3,000 followers on Instagram. Our followers like seeing people from our community, which is great. Kids really like Instagram and you can tag their schools.

Ms. Cindy Montoya from the NM School for the Arts will use as fundraising tool at the school. This is a traveling exhibit that Dr. Case actually submitted an application for. Dr. Case suggested possibly a pizza party. Ms. Garcia y Griego will need to look in to this request. Dr. Case also asked for certificates of appreciation through the Mayor's Office, Ms. Garcia y Griego will follow up on this request. It was suggested that possibly the Mayor could present the certificates in the Gallery. The Chair asked Dr. Case to have the schools take some photos, 5 pictures from each school so we can show what the school has accomplished.

b. Culture Connects Santa Fe: Cultural Cartography

Mayor Gonzales and Councilor Peter Ives introduced a Resolution asking the Arts Commission to do a cultural plan for the City of Santa Fe. The first reaction from the public was, "not another plan". This prompted us to have in depth conversations on "why plans make people go ugh".

We decided we want to develop a fluid document, which is where we came upon this idea of a Road Map. Dr. Estevan Rael Vadez, former State Historian and former Director of the National Hispanic Cultural Center and Vice President of the National Historic Trust and adopted citizen of Santa Fe; felt compelled to get involved. He delivered to us probably a quarter million dollar plan in a limited budget and brought not only his experience as a Historian and his background as a Cultural Anthropologist but all of his years working in non-profits and arts and cultures in Santa Fe. We established a working group, 7 members of this community who worked with Estevan and the Arts Commission Director to guide the process along with the Arts Commission. to conduct a public planning process. Definition of "culture" must overlap. We launched in to the public process, which took place quickly within 4 weeks; we did 5 events a weeks. We had over 2000 people participate directly in the process, they came to a meeting or event and they participated. We have never had an event where 2,000 people attended. Basically culture in Santa Fe could be an evening at the Santa Fe Opera to the smell of roasting green Chile in the fall. Estevan worked diligently and reviewed documents historically and looked at every culture related docs. He benchmarked against seven other cities to see how we compared. He did interviews of over 90 people. There is no other community that sat down to realize what they value in culture.

The Working group recommended 8 items. The budget is the next priority. The Chair extended her compliments to Debra Garcia y Griego and the members of the Sister Cities Committee. She urged them to read this brochure. on.

Mr. Rubenstein asked what are the next steps. Ms. Garcia y Griego said she has been instructed to work with the city manage and to identify those priorities. The Arts Commission was already approved and the cultural agenda, Ms. Garcia y Griego will work with those members to identify how it ties in to this document. Staff will review grant guidelines to see how it can also tie in to this document.

Ms. Garcia y Griego said that the goals of the Sister City Committee are tied in to this document, which makes the prioritization more efficient. There is a link: cultureconnectsantafe.org. Documents prepared by the committee are on the website. A hard copy of the brochure will be provided to the committee members in the next week. The Chair extended her congratulations.

7. Committee Reports

Mr. Bernard Rubenstein stated that due to illness he was unable to travel to Cuba. Mr. Moore took the letter to a cultural agent in Cuba during his visit on behalf of the Sister Cities. He reported that the International Affairs office has the letter, still no reply. Mr.

Rubenstein said that there is a delegation going to our sister city, Holguin, Cuba and that City Councilor Lindell is interested in going. American Airlines has a direct flight from Miami to Holguin. He noted that there is an article in the Cuban newspaper about Holguin tourism and that it is the center of tourism for conferences; a first time other than Havana.

The Chair noted that there may be two delegations going, one that accompanies the Mayor and one to follow. There will be so many people that it made sense to consider two delegations. It is going to be a working delegation. Mr. Rubenstein said that it is such an important delegation and that the infrastructure in Cuba is so overloaded. He stated that China has become very involved.

Mr. Fernandez reported that Parral, Mexico has elected an Independent. The Governor of Chihuahua is newly elected. We are back to square one with Parral, Mexico. Mr. Rubenstein stated that Mexican politics are in a flux, there is a lot of turmoil. Mr. Fernandez stated that many of his contracts are no longer there due to the change in the administration.

Ling Tong – Chinese New Year – school has just started there. Dr. Case stated that he sent an achievable plan to Ling via e-mail.

Mr. Olivas – Japan – He stated they are in the same situation as Parral as reflected in Mr. Fernandez report. Suyama City Council and Mayor did not come after all. They are waiting for a packet in the mail as to what they want to do culturally. Mr. Olivas is hoping that he will receive a name as a new contact. The Chair stated that she has a friend who is being mentioned for Consulate of Japan and she would hope to establish that relationship for future contact with Japan.

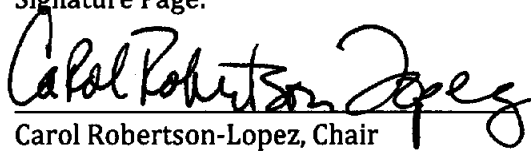
Chair Robertson-Lopez – The Central Asia Music Festival will take place in Bukhara. All you have to do is there and they will pay for the rest. This is where we sent the Mariachi band to China. The Ambassador has asked the Chair of someone who would apply for the best musical act at the festival.

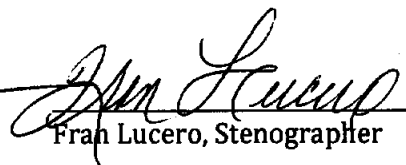
Dr. Case said he is working with the Livingston Mayor on a letter and response for delegation from Lusaka. City of Albuquerque donated a fire truck. Dr. Case asked if the city of Santa Fe has any surplus. Ms. Garcia y Griego will check with Chief Litzenberg from the Fire Department. Dr. Case asked if there are any surplus computers? Ms. Garcia y Griego said that those requests go through the city council that make the decision on who they get donated to.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Sister Cities Committee, Mr. Rubenstein moved to adjourn at 5:05 pm, second by Mr. Olivas, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Signature Page:


Carol Robertson-Lopez, Chair


Fran Lucero, Stenographer