



Agenda

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SANTA FE SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

TOURISM Santa Fe Administrative Conference Room

Santa Fe Community Convention Center

4:00 – 5:00pm

505-955-6707

Goals of Santa Fe's Sister Cities Committee

- More effectively market who Sister Cities is and what they do
- Develop educational programs in schools
- Strengthen relationships w/existing Sister Cities
- Involve greater community in work/activities of Sister Cities

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes – August 9, 2017
4. Presentation by John DiRuggiero: Sorrento, Italy
5. Introduction: Jacqueline Beam, Staff Liaison
6. Report of Chair – Carol Robertson Lopez
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Bukhara, Uzbekistan
 - b. Holguin, Cuba (Botanical Garden)
 - c. Icheon, South Korea
 - d. Livingstone, Zambia
 - e. Parral, Mexico
 - f. San Miguel de Allende, Mexico
 - g. Santa Fe de La Vega, Spain\
 - h. Sorrento, Italy
 - i. Tsuyama, Japan
 - j. Zhangjiajie, China
8. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's Office at 955-6520, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

Sister Cities Committee
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Roll Call	Minutes reflect a Quorum	Page 2
Approval of Agenda Chair Lopez introduced Ms. Sky Lopez who was in attendance at today's meeting to speak about San Miguel de Allende Sister City Research and a proposed mentorship program. In speaking with Sky we feel that San Miguel would be a good choice because of the distance, students could actually travel there as to where some of our other countries expenses would be very high and unattainable for our students to experience.	<i>Mr. Olivas moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Mr. Fernandez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i>	Page 2
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Sister Cities Committee Minutes

OCTOBER 11, 2017

Frances Lucero, Stenographer

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017
4:00 pm 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

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.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Carol Robertson-Lopez

Dr. Jeff Case

Arthur Olivas

Rudy Fernandez

Not Present:

Bernard Rubenstein - Excused

Carl Moore - Excused

Clara Padilla-Andrews

Gilbert Delgado

Ling Tong

Kim Song, Alternate

Others Present:

John DiRuggiero

John Trinacasta

Jacqueline Beam, Staff Liaison

Kristin "Sky" Lopez, President and CEO of SEED

Fran Lucero, Stenographer

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Chair Lopez introduced Ms. Sky Lopez who was in attendance at today's meeting to speak about San Miguel de Allende Sister City Research and a proposed mentorship program. In speaking with Sky we feel that San Miguel would be a good choice because of the distance, students could actually travel there as to where some of our other countries expenses would be very high and unattainable for our students to experience.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 9, 2017

Dr. Case moved to approve the minutes of August 9, 2017, second by Mr. Olivas, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. PRESENTATION BY: John DiRuggiero: Sorrento, Italy

Mr. DiRuggiero is retired from NMDOT and from that point on has spent time with his family close to Sorrento, Italy. This past summer he met with Ms. Debra Garcia y Griego before he went to Italy and spoke about activities that Sorrento wanted to pursue to include music and jazz. Mr. DiRuggiero introduced Mr. John Trinacasta. Mr. Trinacasta owns a non-profit called Santa Fe Music Collective and they put on jazz concerts at the Museum Hill café, currently they have done close to 25 performances a year. He utilizes local artists and puts together different concept projects in the form of jazz concerts. He also brings in people from all over the world. This is the relationship with him and John and hopes to fill some of the needs that Sorrento may want. Mr. DiRuggiero continued to say that Sorrento has an ongoing jazz festival called the Lemon Jazz Festival and the idea was to see if they could couple up the two groups to continue that dialog. The other potential opportunity he was asked to look in to was an exchange of writers and presentations on an exchange in both areas. The third area of interest was with the Museum of Contemporary Arts. In Sorrento, inlaid wood work is their main stay in terms of an art field and they apply it to modern art for presentation. Mr. DiRuggiero also talked about collaborating with the Center for Contemporary Arts.

The Chair asked if they have any ideas for funding.

Mr. DiRuggiero said that there would be no financial obligation from the city, but it would be nice to have the City possibly sponsor an event. The Chair expressed thanks on behalf of the Sister Cities Committee and will be in touch with Mr. DiRuggiero and Mr. Trinacasta to further this discussion.

5. INTRODUCTION: Jacqueline Beam, Staff Liaison

Came from Indiana and left at a very young age and joined the Military, I am a Veteran. She was a Spanish and French linguist Military Intelligence for quite some time. She was stationed in exotic places and definitely has the bug for travel. She later lived as a citizen in Guatemala, Central and South America as a designer and continuing with her linguistics in Spanish. She has been back in the states for the last 15 years and worked as a designer. She then moved to Santa Fe to finish her schooling as a therapist at Southwestern. Most recently she made the decision to combine the idea of spaces and design with therapeutic and art and really focuses on how the environment affects behavior and cultures and vice versa. Jacqueline recently finished her Masters of Science in Art Design and that was from the University of Florida. She moved back to Florida as many of her family members are from there. She came back to Santa Fe, this is her home. Now she works with the Arts Commission and her desire is to start knitting all of this together and she was asked to be the liaison for the Sister Cities Committee. Jacqueline loves the exchange of culture and knows that communication and exchange of information needs to happen to openly embrace the process.

Ms. Beam said that in discussion with Ms. Garcia y Griego they have spoken about the status of Sister City relationship with Sorrento, Italy and also planning for 2018.

The Chair reiterated that this committee and the recorder included, have a love of people and cultures and community are very diverse, we have one thing in common, we want to promote mutual respect whether it be nationally or locally.

6. REPORT OF CHAIR

The Chair reported that she had an interesting meeting with the head of the Arts District for Beijing. They took over a whole part of town and they now have 30,000 artists living there. The gentleman that was here is one of the founders of Ali Baba which is equivalent to Amazon. The Chinese government put Mr. Hey in charge of this project. They are very eager to do work with Santa Fe, they met with Mr. Randy Randall here at the Convention Bureau and the Chair feels there is some exciting potential. Chair Robertson Lopez is chairing the Strategy and Programs Committee for the Sister Cities International meeting, which will be held August 1-3, 2018 in Aurora, Colorado. One strong component of that conference is a youth conference. Thank you to Sky we have a strong linkage and the Chair is hoping to send some youth delegates. We haven't sent delegates before but in Aurora, CO it is more affordable for transportation. Right now they are looking at the University of Denver where the students would go and experience a college campus. This helps the students engage internationally. This is the first time there will be a committee vs. staff planning the conference program. One main topic will be: What is economic development and how do you do it? The other one is on the Silk Road countries. The Chair said she took her guests to the SHED Restaurant and the restaurant was so culturally sensitive, it was wonderful. Dr. Case said he supports and encourages the relationship with Beijing. The Chair encouraged Jacqueline to attend the planning meeting in Aurora, Colorado and invited the committee members to attend if their time permits. The Chair shared a brochure from the Beijing International Culture and Art Communication Center founded in 2009. Dr. Case encouraged the Chair to stay in contact with Mr. Hui, and he supports this relationship with Beijing.

The Chair asked Jacqueline to send the information to the committee members and to Sky Lopez on the opportunities for students to live and study abroad and learn a language. Dr. Case serves as the Education Chair and he will provide more information. The Chair and Dr. Case encouraged Jacqueline to call Washington, DC – Sister Cities and get on the distribution list for future information. The Chair noted that the staff liaison in the past attended the conference so administratively we should designate funding in the budget for this purpose.

Meeting Dates for 2018: The February 13-14, 2018 meeting will need to be changed due to the future Sister Cities meeting in Guadalajara. The meeting in Guadalajara, MX will be for all cities who have had a sister city relationship with Guadalajara, MX. The Chair said she will need Spanish interpreters for this meeting.

Proposed 2018 Dates and all meetings to commence at 4:00 pm. (Formal action on meeting calendar at next month meeting.) The Chair asked Staff Liaison to check this against the Jewish calendar to assure there were no conflicts in dates.

January 10	February 13 (date to change)	March 14	April 11
May 9	June 13	July 11	August 8
September 12	October 10	November 14	December 12

7. Committee Reports

- a. Bukhara, Uzbekistan – The Chair is still working with them for October 2018 doing a future trip to Uzbekistan. They are long flights but the Chair believes she can get this 10-day for \$2000 per person. The people are so warm and welcoming and it is very traditional. There is a strong agriculture base and there is a strong relationship displayed amongst them.
- b. Holguin, Cuba (Botanical Gardens)
- c. Icheon, South Korea – Dr. Case said there is continued communication. Dr. Case has not informed Icheon of the decision from Mayor Gonzales; they will be disappointed. Please keep Icheon in your prayers.
- d. Livingstone, Zambia – Chair Robertson - Lopez
The traditional Ruler is planning to come to Santa Fe, NM in the near future and they have been here in the city in the past. Information will be shared when it is available.
- e. Parral, Mexico – Rudy Fernandez
Mr. Fernandez has been in contact with his contact from Parral. He learned that the Mayor in past administrations would serve 3 year terms and now they can run to serve indefinitely. The Mayor who was in office had resigned to run for office but then it is now known that this Mayor is back in office and he will run for office next year. Mr. Fernandez said that hopefully he can travel to Parral in the near future to meet the new Mayor to reestablish the relationship. Mr. Fernandez contact is also in the travel industry and he may be able to help with future travel arrangements/costs for a delegation to visit. The Chair asked Mr. Fernandez to research the distance between Parral and Guadalajara for a possible combined trip after the conference in February 2018.
- f. San Miguel de Allende, Mexico
Sky Lopez – Presented documentation and a report researched by Inspire, the organization that she works for that does youth mentorship as one of its' program is a 20 year non-profit that use to have an alternative education system but it also works on economic development. Ms. Lovato said she is always looking for ways to pull community together, utilizing the youth and mentors, elders are the ones that are established in the community and contribute back in to the community to help develop it. There is a mentorship program that works with the Rotary Club in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. They have ProMusica which could be a good connection to the Santa Fe Opera and they also have an Opera. You can apply veteran benefits to study at Instituto Allende.

The Chair said they are working with the Santa Fe Rotary Club and they are amazing.

Ms. Sky Lopez said there is an incredible Rotary in San Miguel de Allende and they support a lot of programs in the city. Ms. Lopez continued to detail the programs. They also have a School for the Deaf, how amazing to do an exchange to do a Mexican Sign Language. She talked about the Bazaar of Mexican Design; there could be a good folk art connection. There are program for kids with learning disabilities. Ms. Lopez said she found interesting that the Vice President of Penn International an organization who supports reading, literature and freedom of expression, she lives in San Miguel de Allende and does mentoring.

Ms. Lopez said she would send the exhibit electronically to allow the members to open the links that are attached.

Areas covered in detail by Ms. Lopez on Exhibit A:

1. Josefina School or Centro Mexicano de Lengua y Cultura
2. Jovenes Adelante "Educating the Brightest to Light up the World"
3. Pro Musica Education Outreach Program
4. Instituto Allende
5. CASA (Center for the Adolescents of San Miguel de Allende)
6. Rotary Club
7. Rural Education Institute of Mexico "Youth Empowerment in San Miguel de Allende"
8. San Miguel School for Special Education (School for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired)
9. Bazaar of Alternative Design
10. Computadoras Pro Jovenes (Computer Skills nonprofit for youth in SMA)
11. PEN International-San Miguel de Allende PEN Centre
12. San Miguel Institute of Bel Canto
13. El Charco del Ingenio Jardin Botanico
14. Hand-crafted Beet and Wine in San Miguel de Allende
15. Organic Farmers and Farm to Table Initiatives
16. Art Galleries "Galore"

Dr. Case said that he has been doing this for about 2-years and it is hard to get schools involved. Dr. Case talked about the participation and competition that the students participated in. They will be bringing the winners to Santa Fe next year. Dr. Case said that he had 4 entries from the New Mexico School for the Arts and he also worked with the Mandela School. Unfortunately they got the program going late in the year and the quality of one of the pieces of writing and one of the art pieces was good but it didn't quite fit the theme of the contest and we weren't winners. Dr. Case put in a bid for Santa Fe to receive some of the art work from this international contest. There were about 24 pieces of art work that were taken to the New Mexico School for the Arts. Dr. Case said they repeated this and they were only one of the participating cities. Art is shipped to the Community Gallery where Jacqueline receives it and she will get involved in getting some of this art placed in different schools. Dr. Case has a strong contact at the Korean Ceramics High School. Dr. Case talked about the ceramic category and how they entered it in to the photographic entry. Dr. Case will share information with Ms. Sky Lopez. Dr. Case would like to get a FB page for Santa Fe

High and FB in Icheon to show the ceramics relationship between the two schools. There are other things of interest that are coming to Santa Fe in December; Santa Fe Youth will be able to put their hands on it.

Ms. Lopez said that the students in the Inspire Program are already geared towards themes and topics and how to engage. She talked about the essay contest that could be a possibility for San Miguel and Santa Fe. There is also an Institute for Singing, she did look up the Botanical Gardens and they have an educational program for the youth. Vail, Colorado also has a sister city relationship with San Miguel de Allende and she spoke about the agricultural connection between them and how it would connect with Santa Fe. She suggested the possibility of having their wine and beer industry incorporated to our Santa Fe Wine Festival. They have an exceptional organic farm and they do farm to table.

Dr. Case said that there is an International Baccalaureate School in San Miguel and there is also an Art Institute School.

Ms. Lopez will be visiting for Thanksgiving. Thank you for the exceptional presentation.

- g. Santa Fe de La Vega, Spain
- h. Sorrento, Italy – discussed above.

- i. Tsuyama, Japan – Arthur Olivas

He recently received an e-mail from an individual who is a member of the Sister City group from Tsuyama who said she would be coming to the United States and asked to meet with him. Mr. Olivas was in San Francisco and they were able to meet and speak over dinner. They talked about the Mayoral elections next year in Japan and that they are not in a position to commit to anything until after the elections. Elections are usually in May (2018). They talked about Santa Fe and inviting them to the Japanese Festival. Speaking about the Japanese Festival he mentioned that there is a complication or question on if they should stay at the Convention Center or go to the Railyard where they could have a more traditional ceremony outside. Mr. Olivas did tell this individual that there could possibly be an invite when the event at the Santa Fe Airport is more formalized. Once a date is known he can share with his contact. They need at least 90 days notice and a formal invitation for any invite to Santa Fe.

As previously discussed, Santa Fe JIN and their own tea group were talking about doing a tea for the membership and they suggested the spring. What days are good for the committee and it can then be scheduled. The Chair suggested April, 2018 and to work with Jacqueline. Thank you to Mr. Olivas.

- j. Zhangjiajie, China – Carol Robertson – Lopez

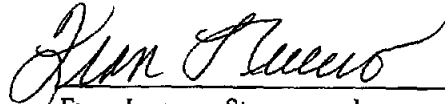
- 8. Dr. Case asked for the status of the two letters he worked on for signature by the Mayor. The Chair noted that they have been signed. Jacqueline said she has the signed letters and will get copies to Dr. Case and get them mailed out in a timely manner.

9. Adjourn

Mr. Olivas moved to adjourn the Sister Cities Committee meeting at 5:00 pm, second by Mr. Fernandez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Signature Page:

Carol Robertson-Lopez, Chair



Fran Lucero, Stenographer

San Miguel de Allende Sister City Research

Prepared by: Kristin "Sky" Stith 10/11/2017
President/CEO of SEED (www.seednm.org)

Research ideas and proposals for building Santa Fe's Sister City relationship with San Miguel de Allende.

These are some of the programs that I have discovered so far:

(A great resource for programs and current events in San Miguel de Allende is the online bulletin:
<http://www.atencionsanmiguel.org>)

1. Josefina School or Centro Mexicano de Lengua y Cultura

This is a Spanish immersion school with homestay options for kids age 13-17 (similar to what MIMS-Mandela is doing in Murcia, Spain)

"Our program for Teens gives youth the opportunity to learn Spanish and to discover a new culture and its customs, while making friends and having fun with other young people." It is a well established school with 395371 visitors since September 03, 2009.

<http://www.josefinaschool.com/index.php?lengua=eng&pagina=main&subseccion=1263876387>

2. Jovenas Adelante "Educating the Brightest to Light up the World"

This is a mentor/scholarship program for teens in college preparation and attendance. Like Inspire Santa Fe www.inspiresantafe.org, they meet with their mentors on a regular basis and get consistent support/guidance, life skills, mentoring, computer training...they also support international internships. They sponsor about 20 kids/year.

<http://www.jovenesadelante.org>

<http://www.atencionsanmiguel.org/2017/09/08/jovenes-adelante-presents-the-class-of-2017/>

3. Pro Musica Education Outreach Program

Wonderful youth musical outreach program (flagship was Rhyme, Rhythm and Reason)

Pro Musica has established a full scale opera as a vital part of the musical scene in San Miguel. Possible connection to be made with the Santa Fe Opera.

<http://www.atencionsanmiguel.org/2014/06/23/rhythm-rhyme-and-reason-comes-to-centro-san-miguel/>) and they have a Youth Conductors Program.

<http://www.promusicasma.org/education-outreach/>

4. Instituto Allende

The Lifelong Learning Program at the Centro Cultural / Instituto Allende provides San Miguel de Allende residents and visitors with the opportunity of taking courses designed for self-enrichment, intellectual stimulation, and fun. Courses are designed for adult learners by skilled instructors. All program staff and instructors are volunteers in order to keep tuition as low as possible.

<http://www.instituto-allende.edu.mx/en/>

They offer adult oriented classes in music. They also provide classes in arts (sculpture, stone, weaving, painting, ceramics and summer children's workshops). Also offering Spanish classes, including full immersion.

They have arts and Spanish classes sponsored by the G.I. Bill Program Office of US Veterans of Foreign Affairs. (A possible connection with the Santa Fe Council on International Relations)

Exhibit A - Sister Cities

**11. PEN International-San Miguel de Allende PEN Centre
(the Vice Pres. Lucina Kathmann lives in SMA)**

www.sanmiguelpen.com

<http://www.pen-international.org/centres/san-miguel-de-allende-centre/>

PEN International promotes literature and freedom of expression. Founded in 1921, our global community of writers now spans more than 100 countries. PEN International is a non-political organisation which holds Special Consultative Status at the UN and Associate Status at UNESCO.

San Miguel de Allende PEN has offered a scholarship programme over the past years. The aim of the scholarships is to support at-risk local students who would otherwise not be able to continue their education. The programme has had wonderful results and the participating students had a high rate of success in finishing high school and continuing their education at university.

San Miguel de Allende PEN is also actively involved in the organisation of the annual San Miguel Literary Festival and Book Fair FELISMA which, among other activities, organizes writing competitions for young people in three categories, short story, poetry and essay.

San Miguel PEN, one of three PEN centers in Mexico, was founded in 1979. Its mission is to help promote literature and freedom of expression in Latin America and the world. This center is especially active on the Writers in Prison Committee and the Women Writers Committee. Locally, it runs a scholarship program and participates in several local writers' networks.

Possible connection with the Santa Fe Writers Project <http://sfwp.com/the-project/about/> or the NM State Poetry Society <http://www.nmpoetry.com> and it's NM Sales Children's Poetry Project. Plus, the Sister Cities Children's Essay Contests.

- Example of a Sister Cities Essay Contest with the Turkish Consulate of Miami, Florida Turkish-America Association and Greater Fort-Lauderdale Sister Cities International:
<https://m.facebook.com/TurkishConsulateGeneralinMiami/posts/1944824109070812>
- The Young Artists and Authors Showcase from the Sister Cities International
<http://www.sistercities.org/YAAS> "Showcasing their imagination, creativity, and passion for world peace, students interpret a designated annual theme into works of art and literature. The work is sent from sister city member communities to Washington, DC, where a panel of judges selects Grand Prize Winners and Finalists based on originality, composition, and theme interpretation. Each Grand Prize Winner is awarded \$1,000."

8. San Miguel Institute of Bel Canto

An Institute offering programs for singers and vocalists.

<http://www.smibelcanto.com/index.html>

9. El Charco del Ingenio Jardin Botanico

Located a few minutes from the historical town of San Miguel de Allende, El Charco del Ingenio is a Botanical Garden and outstanding Nature Preserve. It also displays a vast botanical collection of cacti and other Mexican plants, many of which are rare, threatened or in danger of extinction.

The Botanical Garden holds environmental education programs aimed to the youngest, as well as a wide range of activities including meetings, lectures, workshops, guided visits, concerts and ceremonies, reflecting the multicultural character of San Miguel. I noted the connection with the Korean visit and the