City of Santa Fe

Agenda

SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 8, 2020
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 – November 20, 2019
5. Report of Staff
   Randy Randall, TSF Director, rrandall@santafenm.gov
6. Review of Member Terms
7. Report of Chair
8. Reports & Updates
   a) Education Committee, Jeff Case, Ph.D. and Sky Stiha
   b) Bukhara, Uzbekistan
   c) Holguin, Cuba
   d) Icheon, South Korea
   e) Livingstone, Zambia
   f) Parral, Mexico
   g) San Miguel de Allende, Mexico
   h) Santa Fe de la Vega, Spain
   i) Sorrento, Italy
   j) Tsuyama, Japan
   k) Zhangjiajie, China
9. 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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November 20, 2019

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Approval of the Agenda	**Mr. Olivas moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Mr. Fernandez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote**	Page 1
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SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2019
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

GOALS TO THE SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE
More effectively market Sister Cities and what they do
Develop educational programs in schools
Strengthen relationships with existing Sister Cities
Re-enforce and build existing relationships through trade and tourism efforts

1. Call to Order

Acting Chair, Rudy Fernandez called the Sister Cities Meeting to order at 4:00 pm, Administrative Conference Room, 201 West Marcy Street, Santa Fe, NM, a quorum is declared in roll call.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present
Carol Robertson Lopez, Chair
Carl Moore
Rudy Fernandez
Dr. Jeff Case
Arthur Olivas

Not Present
Sky Stith
Bernard Rubenstien
Erminia Tapia, Project Specialist

Others Present
Brian Goldbeck, Guest
Pauline Kamiyama, Arts Director
Randy Randall, Tourism Director
Michele Reich, Guest
Satori Murata, Guest
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

3. Approval of Agenda

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

4. Approval of Minutes, October 9, 2019

Rudy Fernandez moved to approve the minutes of October 9, 2019 as presented, second by Arthur Olivas, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

5. Report from Staff

Ms. Pauline Kanako Kamiyama

a) Ms. Kamiyama reported that the process for selecting new members has been approved. She will put together a list and work with Mr. Randall and Shirley on the vacancies.

Chair Robertson Lopez asked the Committee if it was the consensus of the group to recruit new members and bring new blood to the group.

Mr. Randall said it's fine to recruit a member, but they don't just go out and have the committee members find individuals to fill vacancies. They publish it and they need to use the process that they use everywhere else.

Chair Robertson-Lopez stated that they will need 7 people and 3 alternates because unfortunately people that like to be involved with Sister Cities are also people that like to travel.

Mr. Randall said that they would try to get the members on some sort of term with the help of Chair Robertson Lopez. Because it is a mayoral appointment is the reason they need to make the terms work. He moves the appointment and then it is on the Mayors calendar.

Mr. Randall said they want the recommendations from the Committee on members when they go meet with the mayor on continuing their term or being a new member.

Chair Robertson Lopez said they want balance on the Committee. She asked that when the press release is done if they could list all the Sister Cities. She would like to be made aware of people that have perhaps lived in some of these cities that could invigorate the Committee.

Mr. Olivas said it seems to always work much better if you find someone who is specifically interested in one particular country or city. He has seen people who are interested in some sort of vague way and they don't work out very well because they are not specifically interested in doing a specific job.

6. Report of the Chair

Chair Robertson-Lopez reported that when she was in China at the World Virtual Reality Conference she had the opportunity to meet with several ambassadors. One of the Mayors she met was from Livingstone, Zambia. The Mayor informed Chair Robertson Lopez that he has been trying to contact someone in Santa Fe for the last eighteen months and has not been able to reach anyone. He is very interested in visiting Santa Fe with his son at an appropriate time.

Mr. Randall has worked up a formula on how many days visitors can come and how many meals they can host and try to get a couple of expenses with public dollars.

Mr. Randall said that it would be to ensure there is a consistency between delegations so they are all treated equally and they don't spend more on one delegation than another.

Chair Robertson Lopez said they would need to meet with the Mayor and his schedulers on when it would be a good time for them to come. The Mayor would need to be in Santa Fe and Mr. Randall would need to be present because their number one need is to develop their tourism.

Ms. Robertson Lopez said this delegation is located on the North side of Victoria Falls and it is a dump. They have no services, there is so much economic opportunity. It looks like risk management. They have rickety bridges that they haven't developed at all.

Ms. Robertson Lopez said they had some firemen come and learn emergency extraction and they had a great time. Chair Robertson Lopez said there has been a relationship with Livingstone.

Mr. Randall said that instead of having him go to the Mayor and asking when would be a good time, have Livingstone give our Mayor a suggestion on when they would be traveling, then the Mayor can check out his schedule and he and Mr. Randall can both be available.

Mr. Olivas said this is also the 25th anniversary with Tsuyama and they might be having a visit from them. He assumes their visit would be within the next year or two.

Chair Robertson Lopez suggested that Tsuyama do the same thing as with Livingstone and start the conversation and discuss it with the Mayor.

Chair Robertson Lopez said she did go to Uzbekistan and attended their Folk Art market. She had the opportunity to meet with a lot of people from their sister city in Bukhara and they are very excited to come to the Folk Art Market in Santa Fe. Chair Robertson Lopez said Santa Fe gets great visibility throughout the world.

Reports and updates

a) Education Committee

Dr. Case sent attachments to the Committee. He mentioned that Gilbert Delgado passed away. At one time he was the Chair prior to Chair Robertson Lopez for the Sister Cities Committee and he revived the group after it fell apart. He believed in the mission of the Sister Cities and felt that it was an important thing to do. His main focus was on Santa Fe de la Vega and he established excellent student exchange programs between St. Mike's and the Institute at Santa Fe de la Vega. He energized things and it is important to recognize him.

Dr. Case mentioned that he has a very detail report written by Herb Thomas and he will include it next month.

Dr. Case said he spoke to Mr. Goldbeck about contacting someone in Zambia. Is there any chance that the US Embassy in Lusaka can strengthen the relationship with Livingstone? Would there be any funds for a project?

Mr. Goldbeck said it is worthwhile and there are a number of programs they support such as the International Visitor Leadership Program that has funding for such trips and efforts. He will have to reach out to them to see what kinds of programs they are promoting at this point and to see if there is a fit with what Santa Fe is trying to do.

Dr. Case said that Shari Osgood was named CIR Teacher of the Year and has taken students to Tsuyama and has also received students here.

Michele Reich talked about her productive month in San Miguel. The Biblioteca was quite receptive about the pen pal program with Santa Fe. She said it made more sense to them to have their scholarship students participate in the program. She had the opportunity to meet with all of the staff and the President of their library board.

Ms. Reich said they were thrilled particulary for the opportunities to provide for their scholarship students to strengthen their skills in English and on our side for the students to strengthen their Spanish. She said she did a fair amount of research and found there are no books for young people in San Miguel de Allende.

Ms. Reich said she is working on three books about San Miguel for early childhood, elementary and secondary school. She has an illustrator that she is working with and she hopes that these books will be used by both libraries and in the program.

Ms. Reich said that if they haven't visited San Miguel that they must go visit. It has changed quite a bit but is still the charming little town that it has always been.

Ms. Reich suggested that the next step might be for the Mayor to be in contact their equivalent Mayor in San Miguel.

Chair Robertson Lopez said she thinks the ideal way to do that is for Ms. Reich to write a letter with suggestions and email that letter to the staff to finalize.

Mr. Randall suggested Ms. Reich draft the letter and send it for editing instead.

Mr. Olivas asked what is the connecting point here in Santa Fe? Ms. Reich said it would be the Santa Fe Public Library and she is in the process of working with the high school teachers for Santa Fe High and Capital High School.

Chair Robertson Lopez said at some point this is an opportunity to show the kinds of things that can be done under the Sister Cities and they should find a way to send out a press release and bring it before the Mayor. Maybe even do a proclamation.

Mr. Randall said the Public Information Officer is very interested in this sort of positive things and is very pro-active whereas former Public Information people were very reactive.

Mr. Randall informed the Committee that the Mayor now does a quarterly report on accomplishments.

b) Bukhara, Uzbekistan - Reported in Report from the Chair

c) Holguin, Cuba - Mr. Moore said that if you got in an application before a certain day you can secure permission but the people that are taking tours claim that you are still allowed to go.

d) Icheon, South Korea - Chair Robertson Lopez said they haven't heard anything other than the students who spent time here during the Folk Art Market had an amazing time in Santa Fe. Dr. Case continues to work with their high school and said he will try to put together a report for the next meeting. Korea put some big money behind this trip and they stayed in the country for about seven or eight days. The expense was tens of thousands of dollars.

e) Livingstone, Zambia - Reported in Chair Report

f) Parral, Mexico - Mr. Fernandez reported that nothing is really happening. They finally broke the ice with them and were invited to their fiestas but were unable to go. Parral had been invited to the Santa Fe Fiestas in return and did not attend.

g) San Miguel de Allende, Mexico - No Report

h) Santa Fe de la Vega, Spain - Dr. Case suggested they find someone for this city. Chair Robertson Lopez said to maybe reach out to the Spanish Colonial to find someone.

i) Sorrento, Italy - No Report

j) Tsuyama, Japan - Ms. Murata indicated that they have been celebrating and at the festival they had a booth. She gave them some recipes to use. She said some of the members from Japanese groups made some designs and they also made some products to sell or give away promoting Sister Cities.

Ms. Murata said that on October 30 somebody from Tsuyama invited some musicians for a concert. It was a small scale effort but they were very proud. She would like to talk about library process with Ms. Reich.

Dr. Case said he would like for Ms. Murata to write up something on the visuals and make a nice package.

Chair Robertson Lopez said that the Sister Cities International will he launching their Youth Artist and Author Showcase and there is a cash award. There will be several categories and she will get it out to the schools.

Chair Robertson Lopez commented that Mr. Olivas has been with the Committee since 1994 and has done an impressive job on behalf of the city and promoting our relationship with Sister Cities.

k) Zhangjiajie, China - Chair Robertson Lopez said they were here and came to the US China Summit in Houston. A lot of those attending flew out to where their Sister Cities were. Since she and Dr. Case were in Houston they reached out to Herb Thomas because he lived in China. The visitors were here for less than 24 hours and had an amazing time and renewed their relationship. Officials from China are only allowed to be here 5 days. They met with Mayor Webber which was important.

Mr. Olivas asked if they had heard from Germany. Mr. Randall said his impression is that they will not hear a lot.

Mr. Goldbeck asked if they could do anything in memory of Mr. Delgado. Perhaps a resolution or something for the committee to consider. He is going to Spain and Portugal in February and while he is not a member there is a possibility that he can go to Santa Fe de La Vega.

Chair Robertson Lopez mentioned an internship opportunity. Having an intern with social media skills would be a goal for the committee next year.

7. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Sister Cities Committee the Chair Carol Robertson Lopez, moved to adjourn at 5:00 pm.

Signature Page:

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Carol Robertson Lopez, Chair

Fran Lucero

Fran Lucero, Stenographer