



Sister Cities Advisory Board

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday May 10th, 2023
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

The following Board members, and prospective members were present at the meeting, (no virtual):

Ross Chambless
Missy Greis
John Wilson
Matilyn Mortensen
Ahimara Suarez
Annie Quan
Joe Zeidner
Nicole Gallo
Sheri Sorenson
Olga Efimova
Ricardo Becerra

Also Present:

Katie Matheson, Department of Economic Development
Lindsey Day, Department of Economic Development
Lorena Riffo-Jenson, Department of Economic Development
Lisa Shaffer, Mayor's Office
Alejandro Sanchez, Mayor's Office



BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Introductions:
Board members introduced themselves
2. Program Overview
Katie provided a brief overview of the Sister Cities program.
 - a. Function of the program is “peace through people”
 - b. Connection of smaller cities and groups vs. larger
 - c. Bridge gaps post cold war
3. Ross, Matti, Nicole, Annie and John are currently the only confirmed members and only ones able to vote
4. Ordinance
Katie reviewed the new changes to ordinance, summarized below:
 - a. Used to not have term limits, we instated 4 and 6 year relationships
 - b. Also changed the requirements to live in SLC boundaries
 - c. Youth member is a new option (ages 15-18) non voting
5. Updates on each Sister City
 - i. Chernivsti, Ukraine: raised money to send medical supplies over, a month ago held a drive of clothes and medical supplies to send to Chernivsti via Poland, Mayor and Council send letter of solidarity and support to Country, sent gift to Ukraine via WTC visit
 - ii. Izhevsk, Russia: 2021 last contact had a lecture at nursing school
 - iii. Torino, Italy: Mayor wanted to visit
 - iv. Trujillo, Peru: had a delegation visit in the Summer 2023, we were able to connect UofU and city for student exchange, we also were able to support Peru a firefighting training exchange this fall
 - v. Matsumoto, Japan: 65th anniversary trip from Japan coming this July (22-25th)
6. Took a 5 minute break
7. Board Expectations:
 - a. **Action:** we will send the link out to the board to take the OPMA training
 - b. **Action:** add to agenda for next board meeting
 - i. Board Structure: discuss options for establishing a lead for each city as well as a backup, the rest could be at large. Would also like to discuss creating various committees (Education, Events, Advisory etc.). Also talked about setting up a possible theme for each city (cultural/economic/educational)
 - ii. Update Bylaws (Katie to talk to city attorney)
 - iii. Elect Leadership (Chair and Vice Chair)



- iv. Check Ordinance vs. Bylaws and term limits
 - v. Discuss options on meeting frequency
 - vi. Create strategic goals and plans - discuss options for instilling metrics at the beginning of each program (Felicia has some great research)
8. **Action:** discuss options to set up a social event for board to get to know each other, confirm term durations
9. Adjourn:
There was no further business. Annie made a motion to close the meeting, John seconded it, meeting adjourned

Ross *Chubb*