



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

International Committee

Monday, March 26, 2018

5:30 PM

5th Floor Conference Room

Call to Order

Chairperson Sherry Olson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Roll Call

Welcome and introduction of Visitors. No visitors present

Present: 10 - Irene Barmore, Gale Kreibich, Jessica Olson, Michael De Yoe, Julie Welch, Sherry Olson, Vickie Unferth, Art Marson, Heather Dutcher, Emelee Volden

Absent: 2 - Todd Bye, Leah Durnin Hoover

Mission of the International Committee

Jessica read the mission statement:

The City of La Crosse International Committee exists as an umbrella committee to advise the Mayor and City Council, to act as a resource on international matters, to advise and recommend future relationships with international cities, and to act as a liaison among the La Crosse sister city relationships.

Approval of Minutes

Jessica moved to approve the November minutes, and Gale seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Art was absent, so there was no treasurer's report. At the previous meeting, the group had discussed Art preparing a budget and sending it to Polly. It is unknown whether this has occurred.

According to Jessica, paperwork was submitted on time and the bill for the banners was paid.

Agenda Items:

18-0122

Sister City reports and announcements - Bantry; Dubna; Epinal; Forde; Friedberg; Kumbo; Luoyang.

Bantry

Heather reported the Coulee Hoolie Ceili was the previous Saturday. They filled the Legion, serving shepherd's pie and corned beef sandwiches. Money was raised for Sacred Grounds and for Cork ARC Cancer Support in Bantry.

Dubna

No report.

Epinal

Irene reported that the Epinal group had the wine and cheese and silent auction event at Le Chateau with 96 people in attendance. Under Paris Skies performed. Profit was \$2500, which goes toward scholarships. Students from Epinal are coming July 7 to 27. A delegation will come for Oktoberfest. A group of bell ringers from La Crosse is working with host families and will visit Epinal, Friedberg, and Paris. French students had a regional speaking contest in La Crosse a week before the International Committee meeting.

UW-L international banquet: Irene announced that the banquet is Saturday, April 14, with displays from 5 to 6 pm and dinner from 6 to 8 pm. Irene volunteered to contact Miranda Panzer at UW-L about participating with a display.

Forde

Gale reported that a delegation will come for Oktoberfest. Delegation members are interested in banking and healthcare.

Friedberg

Todd reported that dates have not been set for a German delegation visit. The group will do a fundraiser with the Loggers that involves selling \$5 tickets and getting \$2.50 per ticket, sometime around July 15. Nineteen Logan High School students will go to Friedberg June 11 to July 2.

Irene added that Mayor Kling, who helped establish the sister city relationship, had his 80th birthday. The group sent \$20 of chocolate and a calendar Todd created to the mayor at Christmas.

Todd stated that the Blue Baby sculpture was to be placed the following Wednesday, April 4. A plaque was being prepared, and the sculpture will be in place indefinitely, somewhere on the south side of City Hall. Irene added that the sculpture has been insured for \$23,000.

Irene reported that a bus of Lincoln Middle and Logan High School students went to the Fasching in New Ulm.

Kumbo

Sherry has a class conflict with the Kumbo group meetings but reported that the group is working on a Kumbo garden. She has not heard about a group visiting La Crosse or a delegation going there. Due to some issues in Cameroon, school did not start at the normal time.

Luoyang

Mike reported that the Luoyang group had its annual meeting in early March and re-elected officers. A new visiting scholar at UW-L came more than a month late due to a visa issue at the U.S. embassy. Her name is Nan Zhang, and her American name is Summer. She will tutor Chinese students at UW-L and will be here for four months. The middle school group of 33 students came and was here for two weeks. Half spent their time at UW-L and half with La Crosse Schools.

The principal of Foreign Language School #2 came in October and has donated money to have a carp carved for the international garden. A carp indicates prosperity and auspiciousness.

[18-0123](#)

Representative term expiration update.

The previous Western representative has not responded to attempts to contact her. Sherry will represent both Western and Kumbo.

Vickie announced that her job at Viterbo is one of several positions being eliminated for financial reasons. Since she will no longer be representing Viterbo, a new secretary will need to be elected at the May meeting.

[18-0124](#)

2018 Budget.

Jessica will check with Heidi on the status.

[18-0442](#)

Luoyang funding request.

Mike described expenses for the welcome banquet for Luoyang students, use of the YMCA for an afternoon, and a visit to the Kohl Center in Madison, for a total request of \$470.35. Irene asked where it fit under the budget guidelines. Jessica made a motion to approve all except the Madison trip and the YMCA rental for a total of \$381.35. Sherry seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

The official delegation that came in November donated a large painting. Michael emailed Heidi and offered to frame it for the cost of materials. Heidi approved the expenditure, which the Mayor said should come from International Committee funds. Cost of materials came to \$90, and the painting is now displayed in the Mayor's office. Jessica moved to request the cost come from the Mayor's budget, and Heather seconded the motion. Jessica will discuss with the Mayor.

[18-0125](#)

International banner design.

Julie pulled information from the international brochure and did a mock-up. High resolution photos are needed. Banners will be 28 by 60 inches. It was decided there should be no more than two photos per city. Each group should decide the points to be highlighted and provide a photo or photos at least 300 dpi. Jessica suggested one scenic picture and one showing culture. Heather would like the bullet point edits and photos with correct resolution by the May 21 meeting. Jessica had contacted Heidi about storage, and she wanted to know the size when being stored.

Next meeting date

Heather made a motion to change the meeting to May 21. Irene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.