



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

International Committee

Monday, September 24, 2018

5:30 PM

Black River Beach Neighborhood Center
Cottonwood Room
1433 Rose Street

Call to Order

Chairperson Sherry Olson called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Irene Barmore, Vacant 1, Michael De Yoe, Julie Welch, Sherry Olson, Art Marson, Heather Dutcher, Emelee Volden

Excused: 2 - Todd Bye, Jessica Olson

Absent: 2 - Leah Durnin Hoover, Vickie Unferth

Mission of the International Committee

Sherry 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.

Welcome and Introduction of Visitors

Lee Rasch joined us to share more about Kumbo.

Approval of Minutes

Correction: Art moved to approve the July minutes. Julie seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Current Balance: \$6,737.77. Michael made a motion to approve and Emily 2nd. Motion carried.

Agenda Items:

18-1327

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

18-1327 Sister City Reports/Announcements**Bantry**

Heather reported that the group would once again be selling entry tickets (formerly button sales) at Oktoberfest. The group has selected Bantry Hospice Project as the Bantry beneficiary of next year's Ceili, but hasn't yet selected a La Crosse beneficiary.

Dubna

Cancelled their open house at the Riverside International Friendship Garden and are hoping to reschedule for the spring.

Epinal

Epinal's deputy mayor, administrator and a city council member will arrive Thursday of Oktoberfest. During their visit they will have an official reception, receive the key to the city, have a quilting exchange, walk in the Oktoberfest parade and take a dinner cruise on the La Crosse Queen.

Forde

Not present.

Friedberg

The group is preparing for a delegation visit as well. During their visit delegates will be greeted by the mayor, participate in the Oktoberfest parade, receive Oktoberfest commemorative name buttons, receive VIP seating at the parade, an ecumenical service at St. Rose, boat ride, Dark La Crosse walking tour, business tours, Garndad Bluff, La Crescent Apples-Winery, farming, Riverside International Friendship garden and leaving for Madison on Wednesday.

Kumbo

Lee Rasch reported LFC is actively supporting the development of the Kumbo Garden. Rotary has secured \$85,000 in pledges and are working on naming options. Ground breaking will be in the next few weeks, date will be set tomorrow. LFC is holding a fundraiser at the Riverside Museum November 7. There is a growing rift between French speaking and English speaking provinces in Cameroon. LFC has approved a resolution for outlining the relationship and calling for a peaceful outcome. They've been meeting with Ron Kind's office working to introduce a congressional resolution. They have asked the La Crosse International Committee to consider creating a resolution to send to Kind's office as well.

Irene made a motion that the members of the international committee will write a letter to Kind. Sherry Olson will draft a letter of support for resolution and express our hope that congress will address this in a timely fashion. Art 2nd. Motion carried.

Luoyang

Mike reported that they are hosting their first Courtesy Scholar from China ever to pass the English Proficiency test without having to take any ESL classes. Her name is Bai Yang Yang or "Ivy" and she will be here through December. She will share info about Chinese Culture, not enrolled in any classes. China Town Hall is October 9th and will feature Ivy along with Carrie and

Jason from the La Crosse School District.
The Marble Carp statue has been installed at the International Friendship Gardens. This was a gift from Foreign Language School #2, where Ivy teaches and Jason & Carrie visited.

[18-1328](#)

International Banner status.

We will email final proofs soon. The printers are short staffed and have gotten a little behind. Emily offered International office at UWL, 1209 Centennial Hall. Emily will be the contact person.

[18-1331](#)

Oktoberfest parade planning.

We are #23 – the parade steps off at 10 a.m.

UW-La Crosse
Students will participate in the parade. Ed Abroad fest is Tuesday.
Wednesday night, Oct 3 at 7:30 No No Boy will perform. Thursday, 9/27 at 3 p.m. is the International Scholar Reception in the Hall of Nations.

La Crosse Schools
Will have Oktoberfest at Lincoln Middle.

[18-1329](#)

Friedberg funding request.

Attachments: [IC Request For Funds Friedberg 2018](#)

Friedberg group has requested up to \$500 towards welcome reception for delegation. Heather made a motion to reimburse Friedberg up to \$500 towards their welcome reception for the delegation from Friedberg. Art seconded. Motion carried.

[18-1330](#)

Epinal funding request.

Attachments: [fund request form 2018](#)

Epinal has requested up to \$250 for a reception for delegates from Epinal. Sherry made the motion. Julie seconded. Motion passed.

[18-1332](#)

Global Initiatives week planning.

The Global Initiatives Week Kick Off Celebration is November 2 at Northwoods International. We will email flyers when they are complete. We will email flyers soon. Sherry will take care of distributing placemats.

[18-1333](#)

Election of officers at November meeting.

Adjournment

Heather moved to adjourn, and Julie seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

The next meeting will be Monday, November 26 at 5:30 pm, Black River Beach Neighborhood Center-Cottonwood Room.

Submitted by Heather Dutcher

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.