



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

International Committee

Monday, July 27, 2020

5:30 PM

*In an effort to be as safe as possible from the spread of COVID-19, the International Committee meeting will be conducted through video conferencing. The meeting can be viewed and listened to through the following link:
<https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/3286075/0c19151b-3006-4d33-af75-c1d452407a87>*

Call to Order

5:37 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Irene Barmore, Todd Bye, Michael De Yoe, Gary Padesky, Art Marson, Heather Dutcher, Melissa Giefer
Absent: 4 - Julie Welch, Emelee Volden, Mackenzie Brady, Mary Rohrer

Mission of the International Committee

Read by Art.

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Minutes

Gary made a motion to accept the minutes, Michael 2nd. Passed.

Treasurer's Report

Budget was reduced from \$5,000 to \$2,000 for this year due to COVID reductions. Balance of \$1633.01 left this year. Todd made a motion to accept the report. Michael 2nd. Passed.

Agenda Items:

- 1 [20-1012](#) Budget allocation, guidelines, and approval process.

 Budget for 2020 reduced to \$2,000 due to COVID. New guideline recommendations will be sent out to members with the minutes and voted on at the next meeting.
- 2 [20-1013](#) Sister Cities International - Dues/Convention.

 \$810. These are typically to be paid by July 1 every year. Heather made motion to pay dues, Gary 2nd. Failed. Group wants to wait and see how the year pans out first. Convention – held virtually this year and was free.
- 3 [20-1014](#) COVID-19 Tribune article.

 Sister Cities are encouraged to send the info they have to Art for a Tribune Article. Art will connect with the Tribune for the article.
- 4 [20-1015](#) Virtual seminar.

 Idea to do something about our sister cities at some point.
- 5 [20-1016](#) Global Initiatives Week.

 Heather will send out a quick information sheet to recruit new members. Global Initiatives kick-off will be virtual and look similar to UWLs virtual commencement. It will include virtual speakers, entertainment and instruction. Some ideas that are being considered are a virtual tour of the International Gardens, International Trivia and more.

6 [20-1017](#)

Sister City and School Reports/Announcements: La Crosse School District, UW-L, Viterbo, Western, Luoyang, Kumbo, Friedberg, Forde, Epinal, Dubna, Bantry.

La Crosse School District - not present

UWL- not present

Viterbo – students coming back to campus with a lot more online options. Foreign students can't get visas right now. A sizable group of students opted to stay in country.

Western-not present

Luoyang - school resumed in early May with many precautions. All foreign exchange programs have been suspended due to travel constraints. No visiting Scholar this year. National Committee on US -China relations is planning speakers

Kumbo - not present

Friedberg – has Facebook page. Schnitzelfest was cancelled, but many people said to keep their ticket money. Friedberg won the marketing contest for their Market.

Forde – not present

Epinal - back and forth with information about COVID in the city. Have a new mayor. They've written to our mayor.

Dubna – Former Mayor Prokh is in the hospital with COVID. Last we heard he was doing well. August 5 is the anniversary for the signing of the agreement. Will do a small event in the garden with the new chess board. Used endowment money to enter into La Crosse Foundation to be invested and they'll handle the legal part.

Bantry – Watch Facebook and Irishfest webpage for some virtual events the weekend of August 7-9, 2020. Also LBFA will be doing some virtual events that weekend, including an virtual meet and greet with our members and Bantry residents. We are currently planning for the 2021 Hoolie and very hopeful things will be in a place to resume this event by March next year.

7 [20-1018](#)

Schedule next meeting.

September 28, 2020.

Adjournment

Irene made a motion to adjourn, Todd 2nd. Passed, 6:45 p.m.

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.