



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

International Committee

Monday, September 28, 2020

5:30 PM

In efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the International Committee meeting will be conducted through video conferencing. The meeting can be viewed by clicking this link (or typing the URL in your web browser address bar):
<https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/3286075/0c19151b-3006-4d33-af75-c1d452407a87>

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Gary/Julie passed.

Agenda Items:

- 1 Budget allocation and guidelines.

Attachments: [2020Funding Guidelines](#)

Accept New Spending Guidelines as proposed. Irene/Gary Passed.
- 2 Sister Cities International Dues.
-Global conversations
-Dwight Eisenhower Memorial

\$800 Irene/Gary passed

Global Conversations – coming up talk about Trades with Mexico

Dwight Eisenhower Memorial – 4-acre memorial in his honor
- 3 Tribune article.

Art contacted the Tribune in multiple ways to see about an article, but no one has responded to him. Heather will check with some former Tribune reporters who work in her office. Irene mentioned that Todd was talking to some of the area magazines. Gary will connect with Olivia from the Tribune.
- 4 Global Initiatives Week.

The committee hasn't met in a while. Heather will reconnect with the committee to get it moving again. A lot of local elementary school students did an International Day of Peace projects last week. This year they did projects individually and shared them virtually. Meet the German Day is happening at the middle/high schools.

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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: Teaching is tough right now with remote learning.

UWL: 66 International Students this semester. 36 undergrads on campus and the rest are studying remotely from their home country. Putting together a care package for them. Our study abroad program was cancelled for the fall. Waiting on an announcement for winter and spring semesters. Currently focusing on summer programs. Education Abroad fair happening now. One student currently doing a virtual study abroad in Spain. Hoping this will lead to more virtual experiences. Office was reduced significantly this year.

Viterbo: International enrollment is down this semester. Didn't get usual cohort of Chinese students this semester. Soccer has attracted a few new students. A lot of new programing and training has developed related to equity and diversity, including "Viterbo Speaks Up," a way for students to speak up if they've experienced concerns.

Western: no one present

Luoyang: currently no visiting scholar at UWL this fall. First time they haven't had an exchange scholar or teacher in about 20 years. Not sure about next semester yet. Not sure what next semester will look like for student exchanges either. Will be examining at the next meeting the recent statements made by Pompeo.

Kumbo: no one present, but Art noticed there are a couple Sisters from Kumbo attending classes at Viterbo.

Friedberg: Had a virtual meeting. Beer by Bike Brigade delivered pretzels and beer to peoples' homes and donated the proceeds to the group. Down to 1 one German teacher with the La Crosse School District. Unsure of the future of the program.

Forde: no one present

Epinal: WXOW did two spots featuring Epinal recently. The number of COVID cases are going back up again.

Dubna: Had their 30th anniversary celebration in August. They had a small gathering in the international gardens that have recently been redone. They will be adding a chess board soon. Busya performed at the event and channel 19 interviewed them.

Bantry: The group did a virtual meet and greet with members and some Bantry Residents in August. Planning to do another one in October.

6 Schedule next meeting.

November 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Heather/Julie adjourned at 6:29 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.