



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

International Committee

Monday, November 23, 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/6490504/2fa4bbf4-a513-4fe6-b10b-d4bd148f3c6d>

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m.

Present: 6 - Irene Barmore, Michael De Yoe, Gary Padesky, Art Marson, Mackenzie Brady, Melissa Giefer

Absent: 5 - Todd Bye, Julie Welch, Heather Dutcher, Mary Rohrer, Carolyn Bald

Mission of the International Committee

The Mission of the International Committee was read by Chair Marson.

Welcome and introductions

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 28 meeting,
Padesky/Barmore. Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer report indicated we paid Sister Cities International dues of \$810, with the remaining balance of \$823.01. Motion to approve by Padesky/Giefer. Carried.

Election of officers

The committee needs a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and a Treasurer as that position is vacant. Please inform Chair Marson if you are interested in any of the positions. Motion by Padesky/DeYoe to nominate Art Marson as Chair. He accepted. The motion carried. The other positions are deferred to the January meeting.

Agenda Items:

- 1 [20-1671](#) Global Initiatives Week.

Global Initiatives week was a success. Chair Marson indicated they did an excellent job in pulling the week together in a tight time frame and under the covid crisis. Irene Barmore indicated she enjoyed the global trivia contest and the Hear, Here presentation. The events remain available on the UW-L web site (<https://www.uwlax.edu/committee/global-initiatives/events/>) and on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/lacrosseglobalinitiatives/>) if interested.

- 2 [20-1672](#) End of year expenses.

There were no end of year expenses identified.

- 3 [20-1673](#) 2021 budget.

The 2021 budget discussion was deferred to the January meeting when more information will be available.

- 4 [20-1674](#) Sister City and School Reports/Announcements: La Crosse School District, UW-L, Viterbo, Western, Luoyang, Kumbo, Friedberg, Forde, Epinal, Dubna, Bantry.

Western -There are no activities occurring due to covid.

Viterbo – All in person classes are suspended for the rest of the semester. With online classes available some of the international students may choose to go home early, however several will remain on campus.

Luoyang – The visiting scholar exchange for fall and spring were postponed. The Middle school visit at the Chinese New Year has been cancelled. The committee plans to present support/gift baskets to the international student at the three campuses.

Friedberg- New officers were elected as the current ones completed their 7-year term. There are 3 co-chairs on the committee, one focused on IT and updating their displays, one focused on school exchanges and the third on day to day activities. The presidential election is of great interest in Friedberg. German schools are still having in class learning.

Dubna – There are no activities planned. The Committee established an Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation to get a better return on funds raised when Dubna founding partner David Bell passed away.

Epinal – Covid is still a major issue. Much interest in the U.S. election and it impact in Europe.
There was no representation from the other sister cities, UW-L or the school district.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Barmore/DeYoe. Carried.

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.