

Municipal Code Chapter II: ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

2.29 INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE.

(A) PURPOSE.

It is hereby declared a matter of public policy that in order to develop an awareness of the cultural, educational and business opportunities and scenic attractions in the City of La Crosse and the La Crosse Area for visitors from foreign countries, as well as to expand community awareness of the benefits of participation in such matters that it is in the interest of the City of La Crosse to establish an International Committee to be formally known as "The Mayor's International Committee of the City of La Crosse". This committee shall serve as a voluntary facilitator to promote the sharing of information between various international groups and to assist the Mayor in areas set forth below. This Committee shall not control, or take responsibility for any particular community international project, as the responsibility for such a group's organization, program or fund raising rests solely with that particular group. The Committee shall have the following responsibilities:

- (1) Assisting with protocol matters;
- (2) Acting as a voluntary clearinghouse for information concerning international activity that may involve La Crosse;
- (3) Serving as a voluntary liaison among groups involved in international projects and keeping the Mayor informed in general of the various activities taking place in La Crosse of an international nature;
- (4) Advising the Mayor and/or City Council on international matters that may actually come before the Council;
- (5) Assisting the Mayor with various requests concerning proposed projects that the Mayor may not wish to deal with directly or that the Mayor may want to have reviewed before making any decision;
- (6) Offering the La Crosse community opportunities to learn about and meet international visitors and offering international visitors opportunities to learn about the La Crosse area.

(B) MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION.

- (1) Committee members shall be appointed by the Mayor for a term of three (3) years and shall consist of no more than fifteen (15) members. Appointment to the Committee shall be upon recommendation of the Committee and approval of the Common Council. Beginning September 1, 1992, five (5) of the fifteen (15) members shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year, five (5) for a term of two (2) years and five (5) for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, all members shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years in order that five (5) members shall be appointed each year. At least one (1) member shall be a member of the Common Council. Notwithstanding the residency requirements of Section 22.11 of this Code, members of the International Committee need not be residents of the City of La Crosse. No salary or compensation shall be paid to any member of said

committee for his or her services. No member of the committee may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms provided, however, any member that has served two (2) consecutive terms may be reappointed after not serving on the committee for at least one (1) year.

- (2) The committee shall meet on such dates and times as designated by the committee chair. The City Clerk or Mayor's Office shall provide appropriate notice of the meeting prior to such meeting in accordance with Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law.
- (3) The committee shall elect a chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer in September of each year who shall serve one (1) year terms. The Chair and Vice Chair shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms. The chair shall preside at meetings and promote the purpose, goals and by-laws of the committee. The vice chair shall serve in the absence of the chair. The secretary shall keep minutes of the committee and be responsible for all correspondence, papers and records of the committee. The treasurer shall be responsible for the records, collection and disbursement of committee funds under the supervision and direction of the City of La Crosse Finance Office.
- (4) The committee may provide for by-laws and procedure not inconsistent herewith and subcommittees deemed necessary by the committee to fill the needs of the committee.
- (5) In order to have a quorum for a committee meeting, there shall be present at least a simple majority of committee members.

(C) DUTIES AND ANNUAL REPORT.

The duties of the committee shall be to promote the goals and purposes provided for in subsection (A) of this section including, but not limited to, assisting the Mayor's Office with international visitors, promoting awareness of the cultural, educational and business opportunities and scenic attractions in the La Crosse area for foreign visitors, and expanding community awareness of the benefits of participation in programs of international value. The Committee shall make an annual written report to the Common Council, through the Mayor, with respect to its activities for the preceding year. Such annual report shall be filed with the City Clerk on October 1st of each year. (Ord. #3309 created 6/13/91)