



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes - Final International Committee

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Monday, January 27, 2020

5:30 PM

5th Floor Conference Room

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### Call to Order

Art Marson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### Roll Call

**Present:** 10 - Irene Barmore, Todd Bye, Michael De Yoe, Gary Padesky, Julie Welch, Art Marson, Heather Dutcher, Emelee Volden, Mary Rohrer, Melissa Giefer

**Excused:** 1 - Mackenzie Brady

### Mission of the International Committee

Read by Art Marson.

### Welcome and Introductions

Elissa Kinster from La Crosse Concert Band and Sandy Brauer from Northwoods International visited. Videographer from News 8 was there as well.

### Approval of Minutes

Gary made a motion to accept the November 2019 minutes, seconded by Julie.  
Passed.

### Treasurer's Report

The 2020 budget has been approved at \$5,000 for the International Committee. The 2019 budget still has a balance of \$527.10. The donation for People Fest (\$200) still has not gone through nor has the donation for Global Initiatives Week (\$300).

### Code of Ethics Review

### Agenda Items:

- 1     [20-0143](#)           Budget discussion and approval  
  
          A sub-committee of three will work to allocate the new budget and bring a recommendation back to the March meeting. Emelee, Todd and Irene will work together and come to the March meeting with a new proposed allocation.
  
- 2     [20-0144](#)           Procedure for reimbursement.  
  
          Moving forward the procedure for reimbursement will be that once an expense is approved by the committee the individual who brought it forward will send Emelee the receipt and payment details (name/address/contact info). She will then submit it to the City of La Crosse for payment. Emailed info is acceptable.
  
- 3     [20-0145](#)           Funding requests from Sister Cities.  
  
          Luoyang is requesting \$250 to reimburse for Student Exchange Luncheon. LLFA and UWL School of Education will also provide funds towards this event. Michael made a motion, seconded by Emelee. Passed.
  
- 4     [20-0146](#)           Banner poles/flags purchase approval.  
  
          Poles have been purchased and reimbursed. Bags will be tabled to next meeting. Heather will bring a sample.
  
- 5     [20-0147](#)           International Baccalaureate Program.  
  
          Sandy Brauer, North Woods International Principal came to tell us about this program that the school is applying for; the plan is to be fully accredited by December 2020. The program's vision is International mindedness through inquiry. They hope the program will expand to other schools in the district. Internationally, all IB schools have the same units of inquiry. More information about the program can be found on the La Crosse School District's website.
  
- 6     [20-0148](#)           Music for city band concerts.  
  
          Elissa Kinstler from La Crosse Concert Band joined us to reconnect about International Concert tentatively planned for this summer highlighting music from each of our sister cities/regions. Many of the members were able to find some great music options for her, a couple are still working on it and some are struggling a bit. Sister cities can email their recommendations to Elissa at [elissa.kinstler@gmail.com](mailto:elissa.kinstler@gmail.com).
  
- 7     [20-0149](#)           Sculpture exchange feedback.  
  
          Irene reported that the information about the cost of having a statue commissioned at the November meeting was incorrect. It is more like \$75,000 plus shipping. Bantry had mentioned an interest by the group to possibly do it but given this new information they probably would not be able to move forward.

**8**      [20-0151](#)

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

**UWL – UWL has begun offering International Lunches that highlight international students on campus. The next one is February 11, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. and the cost is \$8.75. April 18, 2020 is the annual International Banquet. In late Feb they'll be hosting a group of Japanese college students. They are looking for host families to begin Feb 27 for 9 days.**

**Viterbo – International student enrollment this semester includes 7 new students: 1 grad and 6 undergrads. Search is still underway for Director of International and Intercultural student success.**

**Luoyang – We are at the beginning stages of the Corona virus and one student was ill and had been diagnosed with Influenza A and is now feeling better. They managed to find hosts for all of the current group after a last-minute cancellation. The Chinese New Year Celebration was Saturday at All Star Lanes.**

**Friedberg – They are having Schnitzelfest at the American Legion in La Crosse, March 26, 5-8 p.m., cost is \$20. (sent via email by Irene B) Two 4th/5th grade teachers at Hamilton Elementary School have agreed to start an exchange with Friedberg-Süd elementary school. A holiday party / dinner to which supporting members were also invited, was held Tues. Jan. 21 at The Crow.**

**Kumbo – Nothing new to report. Still in conflict.**

**Epinal - Preparing for their annual fundraiser: a wine & cheese tasting, beer & light hors d'oeuvres, desserts, silent auction & wine pull, Thursday, March 12, 2020, 5:00-7:30 pm at Le Château, 410 Cass St. La Crosse. Tickets \$45.00. Students & host families are being interviewed for the next phase in the student exchange.**

**School District of La Crosse – Nothing new to report except the International Baccalaureate program from North Woods.**

**Bantry – The 5th Annual Coulee Hoolie Ceili is set for March 28 and the recipients this year will be WisCorps in La Crosse and Bantry Tidy Towns. The annual Saint Patrick's Day parade will be held downtown on March 14. It begins at the Freighthouse and ends at the library.**

**Dubna – Receive a letter from the Dubna Mayor wishing a happy new year and encouraging more open relations. This is the 30th anniversary of the friendship.**

**Western – No rep present. Art received an email from Kenzie: Classes are back in session. Western is currently accepting applications from students for study abroad opportunities. Students can apply for either a ten-day excursion as part of a course or a full term abroad. I will be in D.C. next month along with the Student President as part of this year's Community College National Legislative Summit representing La Crosse. Finally, the Multi-Cultural club has several events planned for February to help the students engage with and experience**

other cultures and meet new people. Kenzie has also reached out to the previous rep, Sherry to see if she had any plans in the works for Western and the committee as she'd love to get started and set some events up.

Førde – No rep present. Art received an email from Mark Jolivette: La Crosse Bell Choir is going to both Forde and Bantry in August.

## Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on March 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall, 5th floor conference room. Michael made a motion to adjourned, seconded by Irene. Passed at 6:52 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](mailto:ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org), with as much advance notice as possible.*