



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes

### International Committee

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Monday, July 26, 2021

5:30 PM

Black River Beach Neighborhood Center

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*The International Committee meeting is open for attendance in person. The meeting will also be available 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

Art called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 8 - Irene Barmore, Todd Bye, Michael De Yoe, Art Marson, Heather Dutcher, Melissa Giefer, Karolyn Bald, Chris Woodard

**Absent:** 3 - Julie Welch, Mackenzie Brady, Mary Rohrer

#### Mission of the International Committee

Read by Art.

#### Welcome and Introductions

#### Approval of Minutes

Irene/Karolyn - passed.

#### Treasurer's Report

There has been no financial activity, budget remains at \$5,000.

#### Agenda Items:

##### [21-1085](#)

Luxembourg Sister City proposal.

Jim Birnbaum and Mindy Weisjahn presented an update on the proposed Sister City relationship with Junglinster. It is the capitol city of a commune (like a county) and has about 12,000 residents. They believe they will have the proposal ready for some time in August.

There is a good relationship established between Aquinas and a school in Junglinster. In addition to the Aquinas relationship, they see other possible relationships in tourism (groups from Luxembourg often visit La Crosse) and in Business.

La Crosse 's Luxembourg American Descendant Society is on board. They have a strong relationship with Luxembourg and have been considering a Sister City relationship for several years. The Sister City relationship will be coordinated by a subgroup of the organization.

[21-1086](#)

Summer band concert video.

The City Band concert featuring our Sister Cities was a huge success. Everyone had positive comments. It was taped by Heather, Todd and a friend of Mike DeYoe. It can be viewed on the Bantry Facebook page and by contacting Todd. Only challenge was keeping the banners up with the windy conditions.

[21-1087](#)

Official sister city gifts.

Art provided and update on the Sister Cities convention. He has the official vote for the City. There were no competitive seats for board member. There are no board members from the Midwest. All resolutions passed and were designed for the board to operate virtually when needed.

[21-1088](#)

Sister cities convention, voting, and dues.

The International Committee will march as part of the Mayor's delegation. We decided not to have a decorated truck. Each group will march independently with the Mayor.

[21-1089](#)

Oktoberfest parade.

Global Initiatives week is being planned as a virtual event again this year. They are looking for help with planning and would appreciate participation by members of the Sister City Committees.

[21-1090](#)

Forde.

N/A.

[21-1091](#)

Global Initiatives Week.

Global Initiatives week is being planned as a virtual event again this year. They are looking for help with planning and would appreciate participation by members of the Sister City Committees.

[21-1092](#)

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 – no rep present.

UWL – There have been many visa denials for students from China. They

re-launched the ESL program. They are sending 25 students abroad in the fall. Working to re-establish a relationship with the University of Dubna.

Viterbo – Not a lot happening. They have 6 – 10 international students.

Western – No rep was present.

Luoyang – There was some heavy flooding in China. Hope to have a visiting scholar in spring 2022.

Kumbo – No rep was present.

Friedberg – Hope to do something at Oktoberfest.

Forde – Working with Mark Jolivette to try to re-establish a local committee.

Epinal – July 14 was a national holiday celebration. Working on updating the French Garden. Might have a delegation coming for Oktoberfest.

Dubna – Chess competition is ongoing.

Bantry – There was a virtual meeting between fire chiefs. Donated \$1,500 to Wiscorp and to Tidy Town in Bantry. Scheduled a round table visit with the Lions.

#### *Adjournment*

Motion to adjourn by Irene/Melissa. Passed.

The next meeting will be on September 27, 2021.

*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.*