

**NAPERVILLE SISTER CITIES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES, May 6, 2009
MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Rich Mikolajczyk called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jim Davidson, Dave Harr, Jane Klassen, Larry Konecny Jr., Barb Kucera, Rich Mikolajczyk, Dave Perillo, Randy Russell, Sami Siddiqi, Laura Weren

Absent: Bill Bien, Catherine Chen, Rhae Cisneros, Joe Hudetz, Alex Mayszak, Roberto Ramirez, Roger Stamm, Akansha Tarun, Bettye Wehrli

Student Representatives: Catherine Chen (late arrival)

Visitor: Councilman Doug Krause, Sister Cities Commission Liaison

City Liaison: Ms. Cheryl Johnson

Secretary Randy Russell declared a quorum was present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Laura Weren moved to accept the April 2009 meeting minutes as amended. Motion seconded by Jim Davidson and approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jim Davidson reported that the remaining budget for FY2008/09 is \$321.36.

The approved budget for the Commission for FY2010 is \$5,750.

Approval for expenditure for \$50.00 for a framed commemorative poster from the Zobor dancers is needed. Motion to approve was made by Jane Klassen, seconded by Laura Weren and approved unanimously.

Jane Klassen moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Laura Weren and approved unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Mr. Sami Saddiqi was introduced as the newest commissioner. He was approved by City Council in April.

REPORTS

Rich Mikolajcyk recapped the visit by the Zobor Folk Ensemble. Rich thanked Sami for the flyer that he made and printed. He also thanked Randy and Dave Harr for driving the vans to transport the dancers/musicians. The performance was at City Hall at 6 PM on Friday, 1 May. More than 100 people attended the performance. Following the performance, the Zobor Group, the Mayor, several members of City Council and many of the Sister Cities Commissioners enjoyed dinner together at Pasta Amore. Following the dinner, the drivers delivered the ensemble to a Chicago location where they met with others in the Slovak community. Prior to the performance, the drivers gave the ensemble a tour of key downtown Naperville sights including the Riverwalk and North Central College. Overall this was an excellent event. For the next time:

- Need more notice on when such groups are coming
- Need more time for sightseeing in and around Naperville

Randy, Dave Harr, and Jane reported on the State of Illinois Sister Cities Conference held in Schaumburg on Friday and Saturday, 17 and 18 April. Overall this was a great event. This was the first time attendance for each of these commissioners and all learned a great deal more about the Sister City program locally, statewide and internationally. The 2010 statewide event is in Carbondale, 9-10 April. Two to three commissioners should plan to attend. There was a brief discussion about any interest in hosting a statewide event in Naperville. The events are booked through 2012 so the earliest we could host would be 2013. If we are serious about hosting, we should register our interest right away.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim reported on progress on the plans for the student exchange program

- Student is Ruth Baneszova. She is 15 now and will be 16 when she begins the program in August.
- Ruth will live with the Hudetz family for the first semester and attend NVHS
- A few loose ends to tie up but everything is progressing nicely
- Ruth will be invited to the September Sister Cities meeting to introduce her to all of the members and student representatives

Roger Stamm reported that the final version of the Naperville Sister Cities CD is complete and ready for use.

NEW BUSINESS

Randy reported on the meetings held with the Second Sister City working team. He also presented for review and comments the work plan for the next few months. Rich said he had what he needed to reply to the City Council request. There was general agreement that the workplan covered all of the necessary steps as we know them right now. Several people have assignments for the month of May. The work team will report on progress at the June meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Dave Harr moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave Perillo and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 03, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the Mayor's Conference Room, Naperville Municipal Center.