

**NAPERVILLE SISTER CITIES COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES, February 3, 2010  
MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Rich Mikolajczyk called the meeting to order at 6:16 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Jim Davidson, John Fitterer, Larry Konecny Jr., Barb Kucera, Rich Mikolajczyk, Roberto Ramirez, Randy Russell, Sami Siddiqi, Bettye Wehri

Absent: Bill Bien, Bev Eigenberg, Joe Hudetz, Jane Klassen, Roger Stamm

Student Representatives: Melissa Lai

City Liaison: Cheryl Johnson

**Secretary Randy Russell declared a quorum was present**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Barb Kucera moved to accept the January 2010 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Sami Siddiqi and approved unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Rich Mikolajczyk moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Randy Russell and approved unanimously.

**FY2010 GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

Rich led a discussion on the proposed goals and objectives for the coming year. Each one was discussed with specific action items associated with the major topics. Rich agreed to update the list based on the discussion and distribute to the Commissioners. Each Commissioner is asked to state their preferences for the project team they want to lead and where they want to contribute. The plan is to finalize the assignments by the March meeting.

**OPEN FORUM**

Barb confirmed the assignments for the booth at the International Festival. She asked for some help in filling the final slots.

Randy raised the question of the Commission's participation in the state convention in April. After a brief discussion, Barb moved that the Commission approve funding for up to three participants from the Commission to attend the conference. Motion seconded by John Fitterer and approved unanimously. Attendance at the conference is estimated at \$900 per delegate. Randy stated he plans to attend. We need to agree on the final attendees by the March meeting.

Randy presented the quarterly report that will be sent to the Mayor and City Council. The report covers the period 1 April 2009 – 31 December 2009. There were several suggested updates and those will be made by Cheryl and Randy. The report will be distributed by the end of February. Plans are for the quarterly report for 2010 to be ready for review at the April Commission meeting. Barb moved that the report with suggested changes be approved. Motion seconded by Roberto and approved unanimously.

Sami Siddiq presented an opportunity to participate in a national effort to create a citizen diplomacy network in Naperville. Sami distributed some information from Susan Camp who is working on an effort in Michigan. We will watch the progress of the Michigan effort and determine whether or not we believe this program should be added to our goals for 2010. There does appear to be some synergy between the citizen diplomacy network and the sister cities program.

### **ADDITIONAL SISTER CITIES**

Randy presented a summary of the discussions held by the Foundation Board. Rich and Larry reported that the Mayor was pleased with the efforts by the Foundation to seek other sources of funding for additional sister cities. The Foundation board will hold additional meetings during February to discuss strategy for fund raising efforts.

The Foundation board is confident that \$5-10,000 can be raised through targeted fund raising efforts.

The Commission discussed the speed at which we should proceed with selecting additional sister cities. All agreed that one new city per year was manageable. Any more than that would tax the resources of the Commission and the fund raising capabilities of the Foundation.

Randy presented a strawman approach for evaluating the various sister city candidates. The basis for the strawman is the selection criteria approved by the Commission in 2008. The Foundation board will meet later in the month to work with the strawman in more detail and report back to the Commission a recommended first city for 2010.

John presented some additional demographic information that may be used as input by the Foundation and Commission for making the decision as to which order might be best for adding additional sister cities.

Once we know the recommended city, the Foundation will begin the fund raising efforts.

The plan is to have a selection model and a recommended new sister city by the March meeting. Next steps would be to review the approach and recommended city with the Mayor. Once he is comfortable with the strategy, the Commission will schedule and conduct follow up meetings with the City Council. Target is to present the first new sister city to the Council for approval by May or June 2010. The approval package will include a statement of funds raised from private sources. This is to eliminate the concern of public funding being required for the additional sister cities.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Barb Kucera moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by John Fitterer and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 6:00 PM in the Mayor's Conference Room, Naperville Municipal Center.