

**NAPERVILLE SISTER CITIES COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES, May 5, 2010  
MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Roberto Ramirez called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Bill Bien, Jim Davidson, Bev Eigenberg, John Fitterer, Larry Konecny Jr., Barb Kucera, Roberto Ramirez, Randy Russell, Roger Stamm, Darlene Stevens, Bettye Wehrli

Absent: Jane Klassen, Sami Siddiqi

Student Representatives: Melissa Lai (absent)

Guest: Rich Mikolajczyk

City Liaison: Cheryl Johnson

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Larry Konecny moved to accept the April 2010 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Roger Stamm and approved unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

There were expenditures for the Illinois State Sister Cities Association Conference. Approval of the expenditures occurred at a prior meeting. The report was information to note that funds had been disbursed. Barb Kucera moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Bill Bien and approved unanimously.

**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Roberto Ramirez, co-chair of the Commission, presented a certificate to Rich Mikolajczyk on behalf of Mayor Pradel and the City of Naperville for his two terms of service on the Commission. Rich served on the Commission for 6 years. During that time the relationship with Nitra has been strengthened and several firsts for Naperville have been experienced. These include first time participation in the Young Artists Competition, first Slovakian foreign exchange student, as well as the effort to identify and select a second sister city.

## **ILLINOIS STATE SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

Roberto and Randy attended the two day conference in Carbondale on Friday/Saturday, 9-10 April 2010. The conference was attended by over 40 representatives from Illinois cities who have sister cities relationships with cities around the world. The facilities at Southern Illinois University (SIU) were excellent. The workshops were well planned and informative. The entertainment provided by the International Student Association at SIU was well done and inspirational.

Randy Russell was elected to the Board of Directors for the ISCA for a three year term to fill the expired term of Dr. David Coleman. Dr. Coleman was a dedicated member of the Naperville Sister Cities Commission and a long time member of the ISCA Board of Directors. He has moved away from Illinois and nominated Randy to take his place on the Board.

Randy shared the May issue of The Reporter, the newsletter of the ISCA.

The 2011 conference will be held in Tinley Park.

## **QUARTERLY REPORT**

Randy presented the quarterly report to be sent to the City Council. The report was discussed and approved unanimously. Cheryl will send to the Mayor and to City Council.

## **ADDITIONAL SISTER CITIES**

As reported in previous summaries, The Foundation Board has been working to raise funds for the activities associated with Patzcuaro as our second sister city. To date the following commitments have been secured:

- Mexican Tourism Bureau - \$2,000 cash in 2010, \$5-6,000 per year for the next two years (2011 & 2012) of in-kind donations that we will need to convert to cash through auctions, raffles and the like. These in-kind donations will include airfare certificates, hotel and resort stays and related tourist activities.
- The Jesus-Guadalupe Foundation - \$15,000 cash in 2010, \$10,000 in cash in each of the next three years (2011, 2012, 2013).

These funds will be managed separately from other Naperville Sister Cities Foundation funding such as SECA grants and donations from other sources.

Randy has begun the process of scheduling the necessary meetings with the City Council members to update them on the plans with Patzcurao and the progress on the fund raising efforts. The goal is to complete the meetings by the end of May. We plan to get Patzcuaro approved by Council as the next sister city in June.

Roberto reported that a new Spanish Language radio station is on the air through College of DuPage. This is an educational radio station with programming primarily from the University in Mexico City. This is the oldest and largest University in Central/South America and respected worldwide for scientific research as well as fine arts and business.

There was a brief discussion of the possibility of a Mexican Fiesta on the Riverwalk in conjunction with an art exhibit coming to Chicago for the Mexican Independence Bicentennial Celebration in September. The exhibit is from Michoacan, the state in which Patzcuaro is located. This would be a low cost way of introducing the culture of our new sister city. Several people pointed out that the weekend in question, 18-19 September, is the weekend of the Naperville Art Festival. We do not want to compete with that activity. Several people on the Commission will work with the organizers of that event to determine if there is a way to cooperate with the existing activity.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Jim Davidson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by John Fitterer and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at 6:00 PM in the Mayor's Conference Room, Naperville Municipal Center.