

NAPERVILLE SISTER CITIES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2015
MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM

CALL TO ORDER:

7:02 PM

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS:

Present: Marianna Hudakova, Chris Monovich, Laurie Donahue, Federico Manzur – Yunes, Patty Lindstrom, Julie Federico, Karen Swasey, Nathaniel Goodman, David Boor, Selena Grover, and Macarena Tamayo – Calabrese.

Absent: Patricia Merryweather – Arges, Allen Panek, Kevin Gallaher, and Rajath Salegame.

Guest: Randy Russell.

Mr. Manzur – Yunes declared a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Laurie Donahue moved to approve minutes.

Karen Swasey seconded the approval of minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

David Boor stated that there is \$6500 as “budget total”.

And that \$1900 is subject to spending.

Laurie Donahue pointed out that there are specific categories.

Laurie Donahue also said that we would ask for the same amount as last year.

There was also a spreadsheet that was passed around showing the organization's finances.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chris Monovich mentioned that students' terms are up.

SISTER CITIES FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Randy Russell did not give any news on the Foundation.

The application for SECA will be made in October (to be done by Laurie Donahue and Patricia Merryweather – Arges).

Randy Russell explained that there are two types of fundraising: small events throughout the year --- small towns in Illinois and the big gala (annual) --- Chicago.

NEW BUSINESS:

Patzcuaro Committee:

Federico Manzur – Yunes reported on the progress made by the Patzcuaro Committee, by stating that Neuqua Valley High School is already doing Day of the Dead, as well as Skype sessions.

Our first approach will be to invite Patzcuaro students to Naperville schools.

It was also said that DuPage Children's Museum is interested in having a display on the Monarch butterfly.

We also determined (the committee) to go forth with the lesson/ language planning.

There was a vote in favor of the Sinfonietta event, allowing \$500 for the *Dia de Los Muertos* altar (*ofrenda*) and \$400 for promotional expenses.

There was a vote to not contract Carmina (the artist who did the *ofrenda* in previous occasions), and do it on our own or invite art students.

Macarena Tamayo – Calabrese asked for more things to be included in the agreement with Sinfonietta, such as a table with a sign in the middle that reads “Sister Cities”. As well as, to ask for speaking time, so that we can explain who we are.

The following commissioners agreed or not to attend:

Laurie Donahue: YES

Chris Monovich: YES

Patty Lindstrom: YES

Macarena Tamayo – Calabrese: YES

Nathaniel Goodman: YES

Federico Manzur – Yunes: YES

Marianna Hudakova: NO

Julie Federico: YES

Karen Swasey: YES

Nitra Committee:

David Boor reported that the choir of Our Saviors Lutheran Church will be going to Nitra next June.

David Boor also said we could have a section on Nitra at Nichols Library.

Laurie Donahue told us that the Neuqua Choir will go to Slovakia, but not to Nitra. So, we will try to persuade them to go to Nitra.

Selena Grover shared with us that the band from Neuqua went to Spain last year.

Superintendents 203/204:

Laurie Donahue told us that she and Chris Monovich met the Superintendent of 204 and the Curriculum Director.

Laurie Donahue told us that they met the Superintendent of 203 at the event which hosted the Consul General of China.

We will attempt to introduce Sister Cities into the Curriculum of District 204 and District 203 schools.

We are asking the Superintendents to give a message from the top down.

And, we are asking the Committees to work bottom up.

Macarena Tamayo – Calabrese shared with us that the Districts are looking for experiential learning not just the confines of the book.

Brand/ Strategy/ Marketing Committee:

Patty Lindstrom shared with us that there will be a meeting for the brand strategy --- looking at the history what was already done.

Macarena Tamayo – Calabrese told us that they will share with us the results --- why should Naperville care, etc...

Karen Swasey told us that we have enough art from Slovakia and Mexico for the Naperville Art Fair.

The sign – up sheet needs to be filled up.

Exploration Committee:

Chris Monovich told us about the formation of an exploration team, given that there was a visit from the Consul General of China, in which the Fengtai District was discussed as an additional sister city to Naperville.

Young Artists/ SECA:

Laurie Donahue told us that we did not get a hold of the teachers early enough for the Young Artists competition.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chris Monovich moved to adjourn.

Laurie Donahue seconded.