

**SALT LAKE CITY SISTER CITIES ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, May 14, 2015

5:00 – 6:00 pm

East Millcreek Library
2250 E. Evergreen Avenue, Room B
Salt Lake City, UT 84109

The regular Sister Cities Board of Directors meeting for Salt Lake City was held on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at the East Millcreek Library, 2250 E. Evergreen Avenue, Salt Lake City, UT 84109

Board Members in attendance: Ms. Karen Wiley (Chair), Ms. Jinger LaGuardia (Vice Chair) Dr. Olga Efimova, and Dr. Jeanette Misaka

Excused: Mr. Jorge Arce-Larreta, Dr. Anne Erickson, Ms. Rosemary Holt, Ms. Margaret Yee and Ms. Nicole Gallo

WELCOME

5:15 PM

Chairperson Karen Wiley called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Ms. Wiley suggested that we continue going forward with our Board meeting like other boards are doing until the City appoints our new staff. We will be responsible for our staff duties. Our meetings will be at our new location East Millcreek Library, 2250 E. Evergreen Avenue, Salt Lake City, UT 84109

Ms. Wiley, Status of Board, we will be responsible for our staff duties as to open meeting ordinance <http://www.slcdocs.com/cityords/code2014.pdf>
2.07.100: COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN AND PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

After reviewing the minutes, Ms. Wiley called for a motion to approve the Sister Cities Board of Directors Meeting minutes for April 9, 2015. Ms. Olga Efimova moved to approve the minutes with corrections, Ms. Jinger LaGuardia, seconded the motion; all voted "aye," the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION IN MINUTES

No guest, no comment.

PRESENTATIONS TO BOARD - none

UPDATE ON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Ms. LaGuardia gave an update on the City Council meeting she attended. She participated in the public comment portion of the meeting on April 28, 2015 (#E2. COMMENTS: Comments to the City Council) Allocated time was 2 minutes:

She introduced herself as a member of the Sister City Board and indicated that the board has not had any support staff, access to the budgeted funds, or ability to communicate with the Mayor's office for the past 7+ months. She asked if they were familiar with the Sister City relationships and referred them to our website. She gave a quick update on the events that have been happening with each of the Cities and described the upcoming events as well. She asked about the budget and the Council indicated if we didn't have a request in for the coming year, we needed to get it in as soon as possible.

UPDATE ON UPCOMING MEETINGS WITH MAYOR BECKER AND MS. JILL LOVE

Ms. Wiley reported that she has been able to arrange a meeting with Ms. Love, the new Director of CED for the City on Monday 5/18. She also has a meeting schedule with Mayor Becker on May 28th. Discussion on items needed to be covered at these meetings ensued and include the Status of the Trujillo Peru relationship; the need for City support and staff for both meetings and budget; access to funds for pending expenses (events, pins, business cards, etc.); issue of non-communication; resolution of who the board is responsible to, CED or Mayor's Office; pending letters needed for new Mayors and invitations for upcoming events; response to Chernivtsi letter of request for assistance, etc.

STATUS OF EXPENSES

Ms. Efimova indicated she had received reimbursement for her first event; Ms. Wiley indicated she had received reimbursement for the flower for Jay Rhodes funeral; Ms. Efimova provided receipts for the request for reimbursement for the WW2 Victory Day celebration to be submitted to the City; Ms. Wiley also indicated she had the SCI dues prepared to be submitted to the City for payment.

CITY UPDATES

UPDATE ON CHERNIVTSI, UKRAINE FROM Ms. ROSEMARY HOLT

Ms. Holt was not present – however she indicated via email that the relationship was currently on hold due to the unrest in Ukraine. She is still working with the Ambassador regarding the request for medical supplies. After a plan is in place, she will contact Ms. Love the new Director of Community and Economic Development along with the Mayor to outline any plan. She is disappointed that there has been no response from the Mayor's office regarding

their request for assistance. She has provided a response to them but feels it is not a professional way to handle an international relationship.

UPDATE ON IZHEVSK, RUSSIA FROM Ms. OLGA EFIMOVA

Ms. Efimova reported that the Victory Day Celebration was a huge success. There were more than 100 people in attendance to honor the 10 veterans from WWI. The Russian Ambassador and the Consul General from San Francisco were in attendance and presented letters of congratulations and medals to the veterans as well. The Sister City partnered with the Russian Club as well as others to sponsor this event. Students from Izhevsk sent letters of thanks to veterans. People in attendance had signs with pictures of their relatives that had survived or had been rescued during the war. It was a very emotional event to thank and honor those individuals and families that served.

Ms. Efimova also indicated her committee is planning a summer music festival with music, dancing, food booths, etc. They expect 150-200 people to attend. She requested assistance with information on making reservations for the park and discussed anticipated expenses for the event. It is important that we find out the balance in the Sister City budget to support this event.

There is a new Mayor in Izhevsk and it was suggested by Ms. Wiley that she write a draft letter of congratulations to the new Mayor and then Ms. Wiley will give it to Mayor Becker to send. It is important to acknowledge these relationships and if we can assist with these efforts it may be helpful especially since the Board does not have staff to provide these functions.

UPDATE ON KEELUNG, TAIWAN, FROM MARGARET YEE

Ms. Yee was not present

UPDATE ON MATSUMOTO, JAPAN FROM Dr. JEANETTE MISAKA

Ms. Misaka was provided a letter of recognition from the Sister City Board along with a copy of the City Council minutes where she was appointed to the board. This will help in her work with Matsumoto. She still has not received anything from Mayor Becker or the City Council.

She reported that there has been a change in the Consul General in San Francisco. The prior Consul General returned to Japan. The new Mayor of Matsumoto is a physician and is interested in promoting connections with the medical community in Salt Lake.

Ms. Misaka reported that the Japan Festival was just recently held and was a great success. Ms. Moses (Matsumoto committee member) spoke with Mayor Becker at the festival and told him of the upcoming 60th year anniversary of the Matsumoto relationship. He indicated he was looking forward in participating in this event. Ms. Moses recently visited Matsumoto and met with the Mayor there. He indicated that Matsumoto might be interested in participating in the

Japan Festival next year. It is important that we find out the balance in the Sister City budget to support the gift exchanges when delegates from the Salt Lake visit the dignitaries in our Sister Cities. Ms. Wiley indicated that her husband and son were going to visit Matsumoto in August to visit friends they have through the Sister Cities program. Ms. Misaka indicated she would be interested in having them meet with the Mayor and Sister City Members of the Chamber during their visit.

Ms. Misaka also indicated that she would like to order more pins for the upcoming events in July. The current pins have been utilized and the design now needs to be updated. The design has been done, but she is waiting to order until approval is provided.

UPDATE ON TORINO, ITALY FROM NICOLE GALLO

Ms. Gallo was not present. Ms. Wiley again requested that Ms. Gallo and Ms. LaGuardia draft a letter regarding the student visits and the facts regarding the lack of notification in a letter and give it to her to present to the Mayor. This will provide her with the information to help clarify why the Sister Cities Board is not notified when events happen that involve their cities.

UPDATE ON TRUJILLO, PERU FROM JORGE ARCE-LARRETA

Mr. Arce-Larreta was not present however he did indicate that he is still in need of additional pins for the upcoming events. He needs to know the remaining budget amount from the Sister Cities budget.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion was held regarding the gifts that were purchased with Sister City funds that should be available. The pins are very lovely and a collection of these pins would be a wonderful gift. Ms. LaGuardia volunteered to research this option and the related costs involved.

The need for updated business cards was also brought up. Pins are generally attached to the cards when given out to guests. It has been several years since these were provided by the City staff.

SCHEDULE NEXT BOARD MEETING

Next meeting will be held on June 11, 2015 at 5:00. We will meet at the East Millcreek Library.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Misaka, seconded by Ms. LaGuardia all voted "Aye," the motion passed; there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Due to technical difficulties, there is no recording of this meeting.

Karen Wiley, Chairperson
Sister Cities Board of Directors