

14. **UNITED NATIONS DAY OCTOBER 2015:** Ms. Wakita reported that the United Nation, Santa Barbara Chapter wanted to get involved in our yearly celebration. They would bring about 40 people to the event. After a short discussion it was agreed to their involvement and to ask them to display an exhibit of their organization at the event. The date of U.N. Day is Thursday, October 22. Linda Gunther was asked to reserve the Cabrillo Arts Pavilion for this event.

15. **PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY TV CHANNEL 18:** The next sister city to be filmed and aired will be San Juan, Philippines. No up-date. It was suggested that during the Dingle delegation visit to Santa Barbara a film crew be asked to interview the visitors. Mr. Spaulding will call Community TV and try to schedule some interviews.

16. **REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:**

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: President Roberto Najera handed out a Committee Report with activities for the last two months. (Please see attached). Briefly, Health Clinic is near completion, a successful dinner dance on Valentines Day, a fundraiser is planned in June to Alaska, supporting a sewing school in Puerto Vallarta and a BBQ is planned in support of the Law Enforcement Exchange.

Weihai, China: Representative Ken Steiner reported on the annual dinner at China Castle Restaurant where over 50 people participated along with a representative from the Los Angeles Consul General of China. The guest speaker along with graduate students spoke about their recent experience traveling in China. The movie "Together With You" will be shown on March 19 at the Montecito YMCA. A tentative trip to China is being planned for the summer.

Kotor, Montenegro: President George Lilly reported on the Music Academy of the West 8-week Summer Program, where 1700 performers auditioned for 135 positions. A flutes from Kotor was one of the persons who auditioned, unfortunately he was not chosen to participate. Mr. Lilly has high praise for this summer program and suggested that if any sister city is interested in getting their sister city involved he would be honored to host a breakfast with the Music Academy of the West professors to discuss the program further. The Culinary Academy in Kotor continues to be a success, creating jobs for hearing-impaired students and others. The Santa Barbara committee is working on funding a Polo team from Kotor to come to Santa Barbara to train and compete. A new Kotor mayor is now in office, he said that when the Kotor polo team comes to Santa Barbara he will accompany them.

Dingle, Ireland: Representative Scott Spaulding reported on the exciting news of 13 Dingle delegates coming to Santa Barbara from March 19 – 24. A list of events is planned, private and open to the public. On Sunday, March 22 a reception at La Bistro Restaurant, La Arcada is scheduled. Make your reservations early. The delegation will be meeting with the Santa Barbara Region Chamber of Commerce and the Santa Barbara Film Festival. There are high hopes this visit will rejuvenate the Dingle Sister City.

Toba, Japan: Linda Mathews reported on the activities of the group. Recruitment for the summer school exchange is on going. This is a family-to-family exchange; students from the ages of 13, 14 and 15 are invited to participate. This exchange has been on going for 23 years. A trip to Toba is planned in November; Ms. Mathews will keep us posted on more details.

Patras, Greece: Georgia Gastouniotis reported that the committee is active and currently planning the Greek Independence Day, Saturday, March 21 at 6PM at the St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church. The new Los Angeles Consul General Gregory Karahalios will be the guest speaker. Ms. Gastouniotis thanked Gil Garcia for agreeing to come to their Board meeting to talk about SCI and SoCal. A correction to the Alternate should be Bessie Condos. And, lastly Santa Barbara-Patras Sister Cities has received their non-profit status; they are legally a 501 3(c) tax except organization.

San Juan, Philippines: No representative attended; no report made.

17. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marti Correa de Garcia, Secretary