

Minutes of the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board Meeting of Wednesday, July 1, 2015

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Takako Wakita called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Members present: Takako Wakita, chair; Bea Molina, City-at-Large member; Missy Zeitsoff (alternate) Dingle, Ireland; Raul Navarro, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Jaime Sodusta, San Juan, Philippines; Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan; George Lilly, Kotor, Montenegro; and Linda Gunther, Staff Representative.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved of the May 6, 2015, meeting.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Bea Molina was appointed by the Santa Barbara City Council to be one of the three members appointed by the City Council. Her term began on July 1, 2015; Bea was welcomed to the Sister Cities Board.

Albemar Dumlao was appointed as the new President of the San Juan Sister City Committee and will also be the representative to the Board. Jaimie Sodusta will be the alternate.

Scott Spaulding, President of the Dingle Sister City Committee and representative to the Board, had health concerns recently and has resigned as the President and the representative of the Dingle Sister City Committee.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Gil Garcia, President of SoCal, stated that there will be a delegation going to a meeting in Greece this fall; also the Ventura Sister Cities Board is going to Huntington Park; and he hopes that Santa Barbara can host a meeting in the future.
6. **REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2014:** The calendar was reviewed and updated.
7. **ANNUAL REPORT:** The report needs to be completed; all are due to Takako now.
8. **NETWORKING/GET TOGETHER WITH MEMBERS FROM ALL COMMITTEES:** The networking/get together is scheduled for Friday, August 21, 2015, at 6 pm, Barbara Ellis is hosting the event. Also, let her know if you are able to attend and what topics you are interested in hearing about.
9. **SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL (SCI) REPORT:** Pat Fallin, Sister Cities International Representative, reported that on July 14, the annual conference will be held in Minneapolis. The 60th Anniversary of SCI will be held on July 16, 2016, in Washington, D.C. SCI was established in 1956 to bring about world peace one person at a time.
10. **SCI SOCIAL REGIONAL MEETING:** Pat Fallin, Sister Cities International Representative, reported on the SoCal Chapter of SCI. Pat and one other representative cover the Southern California region of SCI; for Pat this is the north and western section of Southern California. In August there will be a meeting in San Diego of all the Southern California SCI members and they will discuss student exchanges using Skype. In January there is a joint meeting in Paseo Robles.
11. **VOTING DELEGATE TO SCI ANNUAL MEETING – JULY 2015:** A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to appoint Pat Fallin as the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board's voting delegate at the SCI Annual Meeting.

12. **SPECIAL OLYMPICS – WORLD GAMES – JULY 2015:** Nothing to report.
13. **9/11 CONCERT – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2015:** The Annual 9/11 concert will be held at the Faulkner Gallery at the Central Library at 5:30 pm on Friday, September 11. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved that a stipend of not more than \$200 be paid if needed for the entertainment. A flyer will be made and sent to all representatives to be forwarded to their Committees.
14. **UNITED NATIONS DAY – THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015:** All Board members were asked to come up with ideas for entertainment for this annual event. The United Nations Representative, Barbara Gaughen-Muller will be at the event as well. This will be discussed again at the next meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and approved that \$100 could be spent on entertainment.
15. **PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY TV CHANNEL 18 – Jaime Sodusta:** The San Juan Sister City Committee will begin working with Channel 18.
16. **REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:**
 - Dingle, Ireland:** Missy Zeitsoff, Alternate, reported they are planning on an August meeting to choose a new President and representative.
 - Kotor, Montenegro:** George Lilly, Representative, reported that they have expanded the culinary school – students are getting a lot of experience and it has been very successful. They pay a stipend to the students to attend, to go on internships, or go to work. In Kotor a chef who is paid a stipend teaches one course a year. They are doing a really good job at helping these students. George passed around pictures of the students a few years ago and the sister of one of the students is now a student herself. Linda Mathews ate at the restaurant and she stated that the kids are very helpful and full of hope to become a skilled person in the restaurant business.
 - Patras, Greece:** No representative nor alternate attended and no report was made.
 - Puerto Vallarta, Mexico:** Raul Navarro reported that July was an active month. On July 4, there will be a chicken/tri tip fundraiser for the Clinic at \$25 each and all are invited to come. It will be held at his home. There will also be a visitation from Puerto Vallarta on Tuesday, July 7, with a 10 am breakfast meeting, and will include some City officials. Activities will be planned throughout the whole week.
 - San Juan, Philippines:** Jaime Sodusta, Representative, introduced the new President and Representative, Albemar Dumlao. They gave a report on the visit of the Mayor of San Juan and eleven delegates that came with her. They took them to lunch, gave them a tour of Santa Barbara and Solvang, and met with Mayor Helene Schneider in a reception at her office. It was a very successful visit.
 - Toba, Japan:** Linda Mathews reported that they had their student exchange; the kids from here go over to Toba in August. On July 18, there will be an oboe festival at the Church on 1015 East Montecito Street in the afternoon. There are rehearsals each Sunday at 2 pm. There is also a very interesting Japanese exhibit at the Historical Museum in Santa Ynez. In August there will be a meeting and a pool party.
 - Weihai, China:** No representative nor alternate attended and no report was made.
15. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Gunther, Staff Representative