



# Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



## Minutes of Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board, September 5, 2007

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Gerald Corrigan at 12:00 noon. Members in attendance were: Gerald Corrigan, Chairperson; Takako Wakita, Vice Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Carey Rogers, Dingle, Ireland; David Gorbet, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Dan Fitzgibbons, Weihai, China, Alternate; Mark Hamilton, Toba, Japan Alternate; Roger Horton, City Council Liaison and Linda Gunther, Staff Representative. Guests present: Gil and Marti Garcia; Erica Diaz, Roseann Crawford.

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the minutes of the July 11, 2007 were approved as corrected. Under Status of Sister Cities Brochures last line should read Alice Vazquez and Takako Wakita assisted in putting together the brochure.

Calendar of Events for September - December 2007 were reviewed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Takako Wakita reported that the "Many Voices , One Song" concert was enjoyed by about 150 people.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

SCI CONFERENCE: Takako Wakita attended the conference along with Gil and Marti Garcia of the Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City and Mr. and Mrs Perez from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. The theme of the Conference was "Next 50 Years of SCI", approximately 400 attendees representing 30 countries. Takako said the highlight of the Conference was the awarding of the Innovation of Arts and Culture award to the Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City. Marti Garcia also reported that the young artist from Puerto Vallarta won an award of \$300.00.

9/11 CONCERT: Gil Garcia, Chairman of the Event, reported that help will be needed setting up and clean up and also help with the Reception after the concert. David Gorbet will bring the Sister Cities flags and medallions. All the musicians have been confirmed and Gil said that the Chamber of Commerce has donated \$500.00 toward expenses for the Concert. Mayor Blum and Council members have been invited.

UNITED NATIONS CELEBRATION - October 25, 2007: Due to the fact that last year we ran out of food because too many people opted to pay the \$10.00 rather than bring food a discussion was held as to raising the charge to \$15.00 for not bringing food to hopefully preclude this from happening again. After due discussion on a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved to raise the fee to \$15.00 for not bringing food. Mr. Corrigan passed out copies of an Agenda for the Celebration with assignments of duties for the five Sister Cities. He said the entertainment will be the Adelfos Ensemble, a group of eight men a capella chorus presenting ancient chants to spirituals.

YOUTH CONFERENCE - October 25, 2007: The Chair called on Roseann Crawford to bring us up to date on plans for the Conference, which will proceed the dinner, her daughter Vanessa will be in charge. Roseann distributed copies of a flyer that will be sent to the schools promoting the Conference, they are hoping for a bigger turn out than last year. She presented a budget of \$100.00 for expenses for approval. On a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved to approve the budget of \$100.00.

**REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:**

**Dingle, Ireland:** Carey Rogers reported the joint meeting with the Santa Barbara Historical Society in July was well attended with 65 people enjoyed the speaker very much. Their next event will be in November but date and place has not yet been determined.

**Toba, Japan:** Mark Hamilton reported that 24 people will be leaving for Japan on September 23rd, including Roger Horton and wife and City Administrator, Jim Armstrong and wife. The Toba group hosted a pool party in August for the exchange students, parents and members of Toba group with 50 people attending. Four students from Santa Barbara went to Toba in July.

**Weihai, China:** Alternate, Dan Fitzgibbons reported attending a meeting in May in Pasadena for Sister Cities of Weihai. He also reported that Weihai's first exchange student was in Santa Barbara for months of July and August. He also said that Dr. Peter Haslund has taken a second group of 15 teachers to Weihai. Dan said that a group from Weihai is planning to come to Santa Barbara regarding the Waste Water Project.

**Puerto Vallarta, Mexico:** David Gorbet reported that 40 people from Puerto Vallarta came to Santa Barbara during Fiesta and enjoyed all the many activities planned for them during their stay. Twenty-four people from Santa Barbara enjoyed a trip to Copper Canyon which was a fundraiser for the Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City group.

**San Juan, Philippines:** In the absence of a representative from San Juan, Gerald Corrigan reported that the groups seems to be getting active again.

Mr. Corrigan also reported on the meeting held in Carpinteria with regards to establishing a Sister City with Kotor, Montenegro. He said he didn't feel they are well enough established both here and in Kotor to present them for consideration to become a Sister City at this time. Roger Horton suggested that they should follow the Dingle plan which proved to be very successful.

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Baker, Recording Secretary