



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



MINUTES Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board March 5, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Gerald Corrigan at 12:00 noon. Members attending were: Gerald Corrigan, Chairperson; Takako Wakita, Vice Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Gary Maxwell, Toba, Japan; David Gorbet, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Carey Rogers, Dingle, Ireland; Jonas DeLeon, San Juan, Philippines; Roger Horton, City Council Liaison; Linda Gunther, Staff Representative. Guests: Harry Weisbart and Dr. Ichak Adizes, Representing the proposed Sister City of Kotor, Montenegro.

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the minutes of the January 10, 2008 were approved.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: The Calendar of Events were reviewed and discussed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

SCI FUNDING PROPOSAL: Gary Maxwell explained the proposal is to establish a Federal Re-Granting Citizen Exchange Program. After due discussion on a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved to accept the concept subject to review by the City Council. Will be discussed further at next meeting in May.

SOCAL CONFERENCE, FEBRUARY 2, 2008: Gerald reported he was not able to attend, however, Gil Garcia did attend and was to give a report at this meeting but could not attend.

KOTOR SISTER CITY PROPOSAL STATUS: Dr. Ichak Adizes and Harry Weisbart gave a presentation explaining where the city of Kotor is located and why it should be considered as a Sister City. Dr. Adizes said he had met with Mayor of Kotor and some of the dignitaries and they were all enthusiastic about the proposal and promised their support. Many questions were addressed such as: are there enough citizens of Kotor interested in membership besides the Government officials and can the ordinary citizen afford to travel to the U.S? What is Kotor's economic

status? Roger Horton said he would like to see the membership list of their local group before the proposal is presented to City Council. After much discussion, Carey Rogers made a motion to approve the proposal for the establishment of the Kotor Sister City, motion seconded and carried. Motion will be sent to City Council for final approval.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

San Juan, Philippines: Jonas DeLeon reported the group had an event in March to try and build up their membership.

Toba, Japan: Gary Maxwell reported their New Year's Luncheon was attended by 50 people. He said the Acting Consul General of Japan will be coming to Santa Barbara in April and a Luncheon at the University Club and a tour of the Botanic Gardens with a Tea Ceremony at the Japanese Tea House located there. The group is also planning a trip to the Japanese Museum in Los Angeles in April. Student Exchange is an ongoing project.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: David Gorbet reported the group will be participating in Cinco de Mayo celebration in De La Guerra Plaza on May 3rd & 4th as a fund raising project. He also reported they now have a website: SBPVSisterCity.Org.

Dingle, Ireland: Carey Rogers reported they did not have a trip to Dingle planned for this year. They are also having problems with a drop in membership and getting offices on the Board filled. She said they need to do some re-organizing and hopefully get some renewed interest in the organization.

Weihai, China: As there was no representative from Weihai, Gerald reported that he attended their New Year's Party which was well attended by 60 people.

Gerald also reported that a new Sister City has been formed between Goleta and a city in Mexico and he along with some members of this Board attended a reception for them at the Goleta Community Center and hosted by the Puerto Vallarta Sister City group.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Janet M. Baker
Recording Secretary