



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



MINUTES

Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board
May 6, 2009

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Takako Wakita at 12:00 Noon. Secretary called the Roll with the following members present: Takako Wakita, Chairperson; Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Marianne Freeman, Dingle, Ireland; David Gorbet, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan; Joe Cantrell, Weihai, China; San Juan, Philippines - No representative attended; Guests: George Lilly, representing proposed Sister City of Kotor, Montenegro; Georgia Gastouniotese and Theony Condos to get information on establishing a Sister City in Patras, Greece. Roger Horton, City Council Liaison and Linda Gunther, Staff Representative

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the Minutes of the March 4, 2009 were approved as mailed.,

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Takako welcomed Joe Cantrell, Weihai, China and Marianne Freeman, Dingle, Ireland as the new Representatives. Takako announced that the SCI Award that Marti Garcia worked so hard on the application, unfortunately did not win. Takako thanked everyone who worked in setting up the display at the Main Library in March and she showed pictures she took of the display. Linda Mathews reported on the upcoming Benefit Dinner to be held on May 9, 2009 at the home of Jchak and Nunit Adizis to benefit the Orphans of Kotor, Montenegro.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2009: Takako reminded the Representatives about the Annual Report which is due to City Council by July 1, 2009 and asked that each representative get their report to her no later than May 15, 2009. No other changes or additions.

APPROVAL TO ADD A NEW SISTER CITY - KOTOR, MONTENEGRO: After due discussion, on a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved to recommend to City Council that Kotor, Montenegro be approved as a new Sister City.

SCI ADVOCACY - STRENGTHENING AMERICA'S IMAGE PROGRAM: Takako reported that SCI is asking for support of this program by each Sister City to write their Congressman for their support. After due discussion it was decided to table this item for further discussion at the July meeting.

9/11 CONCERT: Discussion was held on the fact that even though the City College Campus was a beautiful location last year's concert was not well attended mainly due to the parking situation. A suggestion was made by Takako that we consider the Unitarian Society and Music Club as Co-sponsors and have the concert at the Unitarian Church Social Hall as they have had other successful events at this venue. After due discussion on a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved that we proceed with plans for the 9/11 concert in September and to start at 5:00 p.m. instead of 4:30 p.m.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY TV (Channel 17): Wayne Hewitt reported that he had

contacted Channel 17 regarding this program and was told that we would have to produce our own clip and they would air it Free of charge, if the Station had to produce it there would be a significant charge. After due discussion it was suggested that each Sister City produce a 10 minute clip and then put them all together and edit them to produce a 30 minute segment.

Further discussion at the July meeting and was suggested that maybe get a representative from Channel 17 to come to that meeting to explain further.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Weihai, China: Joe Cantrell reported they had recently had a Board meeting to discuss way to invigorate the members into being more active. He said that Peter Haslund through a Freeman Grant is sending 15 teachers to Weihai, China this summer. The group is also considering bringing 2 or 3 teachers from Weihai to Santa Barbara and that Sadie Hall is working on an invitation and would like Takako, Roger Horton and Mayor Blum to sign the invitation to send to Weihai regarding this exchange.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: Dave Gorbet reported the Cinco de Mayo celebration this past weekend, which was a fund raiser for the Puerto Vallarta group was pretty successful due to the fact that there were two cruise ships in port that weekend. Also, another successful student exchange in March due to the efforts of Roseann Crawford. The annual Strawberry Social is planned for May 31st at the home of Don and Barbara Becker. Plans are progressing for the El Fandango which will be held the year at Mulligans instead of the Elks Club.

Toba, Japan: Linda Mathews reported they have some great students lined up for the exchange in July. Had a fund raiser at the Tea House recently to go toward repairs to the Tea House.

Dingle, Ireland: Marianne Freeman reported that she had talked to Erin Graffy recently and Erin said they are going to restructure but can not do it in the near future as she just does not have the time.

San Juan, Philippines: No one attended to give a report.

ADDITION TO ANNOUNCEMENTS: Roger Horton announced that there is a proposal circulating for establishing a World Heritage Site, UNESCO, to designate El Camino Real, which ends in Santa Barbara, a World Heritage Site. He said that Dr. Jarrell Jackman, Historic Preservation, asked if anyone interested in supporting this project to contact Roger Horton.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m,

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Baker, Recording Secretary