



# Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



## Special Meeting Minutes of the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board, June 27, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Takako Wakita at 12:15 p.m. Members present were: Chairperson, Takako Wakita; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Blas Garza, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Michael Fitzgerald, Dingle, Ireland; Joe Cantrell, Weihai, China; George Lilly, Kotor, Montenegro; Linda Gunther, Staff Representative. Guests: Marti Correa de Garcia, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, Alternate and Gil Garcia, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico member. Members absent were: Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairman; Jaime Sodusta, San Juan, Philippines, Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan and Dean Gastouniotis, Patras, Greece.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the minutes of the May 2, 2012 meeting were approved as corrected.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Linda Gunther reported the passing of Theony Condos, Patras, Greece Sister City Representative. Linda said she attended the service and after the service she spoke to Georgia Gastouniotis, the new representative for Patras, Greece. Georgia said that Greece is still having financial problems and Patras will need more time to get reorganized. The Sister City here in Santa Barbara has reorganized and is ready to continue in a more active capacity. Linda said still haven't received a reply from the Mayor of Patras to the letter and agreement sent by the Santa Barbara Mayor at the time of the Sister City action taken by Council. Takako said that Patras, Greece was not listed on the recent SCI membership list so she added it on. Takako also announced that Michael Fitzgerald is the official Representative for Dingle, Ireland and is also Acting President of the Dingle Sister City Committee.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2012:** The Calendar of Events were reviewed and the Student Exchange for Weihai, China was added to the August Calendar.

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2011-2012:** Takako reported she had received reports from all the Sister City Committees except Dingle, Ireland; Michael said he would send something soon.

**FINAL APPROVAL OF DESIGN FOR MAP AT AIRPORT:** Discussion was held on the map being prepared for the Airport Terminal. A suggestion was made by Gil Garcia that the provinces/states be added, i.e., Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico. After due discussion, a motion was made and seconded, and passed that adding the province/state be optional for each Sister City. Gil Garcia reported that SCI wants their logo to appear at the top of the map, a motion was made to eliminate the SCI logo from the map, the motion did not pass as it was a tie vote. Takako reminded the Board that the Airport Director has the final approval of the map submitted, including any changes or additions to the map.

**SCI BALLOTS FOR SCI CONFERENCE IN JULY:** After due discussion, on a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was decided that Marti Correa de Garcia should represent the Board on the voting for the slate of officers and the By-law changes as she will be attending the Conference. The City of Santa Barbara has four votes and one vote will be for Gil Garcia and the other three votes will be at the discretion of Marti Correa de Garcia, but cannot be for Gil Garcia, who is on the ballot.

**PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY TV CHANNEL 18:** Blas Garza, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, representative reported that their video had been made, but he didn't know when it would be aired. He felt it went very well with the assistance of Evie Treen and Omar who participated in the video. Takako said that Kotor, Montenegro would be next.

**9-11 CONCERT - SEPTEMBER 9, 2012:** This event will be held at the Faulkner Gallery at the Central Library on Sunday, September 9, 2012, from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Takako reported she has confirmed the Youth Mariachi Group and the Unitarian Church Choir will perform and said she would like to get one more group and asked for suggestions. Janet Baker suggested the Treble Clef Group and Takako said she would check to see if they are available. Takako said she will need two people to pass out programs at the door and also help setting up chairs. For the Reception she asked that each Sister City provide a plate of finger foods; the drinks will be bought from the Board funds.

**UNITED NATIONS CELEBRATION - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2012:** Takako said she needs ideas for entertainment. Since the San Marcos High School Madrigal singers were not available for the 9-11 Concert she will contact them again to see if they would be available for the U.N. Celebration. She asked the Representatives to discuss this with their Boards for ideas for other entertainment. Further discussion will be held at the September meeting.

**AMENDMENTS TO GUIDELINES FOR ESTABLISHING A NEW SISTER CITY:** Due to the fact that two members had to leave early this item was tabled due to lack of a quorum.

**SISTER CITIES DISPLAY ROOM AT MAYOR'S OFFICE:** This item also tabled for lack of a quorum.

**NETWORKING TOGETHER WITH MEMBERS FROM ALL COMMITTEES:** This item was tabled until the September meeting.

**REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS: (Limit 3 minutes each):**

**Kotor, Montenegro:** George Lilly reported that the Women's Economic Development Group are in Kotor now for meetings. The Youth Water Polo team is leaving today for Kotor to train and compete with the Kotor team. George shared pictures of some of their events.

**Puerto Vallarta, Mexico:** Blas Garza passed out a schedule of events planned for the visitation of the members from Puerto Vallarta who will be arriving on July 20th for a week and he extended invitations to the other Board members to attend.

**Dingle, Ireland:** Michael Fitzgerald reported that he had met with Erin Graffy and Carey Rogers and hopes to get the Dingle Sister City Committee active again soon. He also confirmed that he is Acting President of the Committee as well as the Representative.

**Weihai, China:** Joe Cantrell reported their Committee is having a meeting this afternoon and they are working on their Student Exchange which is scheduled for August. Joe said that Alex Sheldon is the new President of the Weihai, China Sister City Committee and is his alternate.

**Patras, Greece:** No Representative Attended; No Report Made

**San Juan, Philippines:** No Representative Attended; No Report Made

**Toba, Japan:** No Representative Attended; No Report Made

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 P.M.

Minutes Prepared by Janet Baker, Recording Secretary