



# Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



## MINUTES

Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board  
January 10, 2008

Meeting of the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board was called to order by Chairperson, Gerald Corrigan at 12:00 noon on January 10, 2008. Secretary called the roll: Members attending were: Gerald Corrigan, Chairperson; Takako Wakita, Vice Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Craig Nielsen, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (Alternate); Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan; Jeremy Hass, San Juan, Philippines and Jaime Sodusta (Alt.) dropped off report, had to leave to attend another meeting; Linda Gunther, Staff Representative. Guest: Gil Garcia

On a motion moved, seconded and carried the minutes of the November 7, 2007 were approved.

**REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS:** Craig Nielsen, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico gave more detailed information regarding the upcoming Irish Concert which the Puerto Vallarta Committee is helping sponsor and he urged all members to attend and bring guests as the proceeds from the concert is to be used for At Risk Teenagers in Santa Barbara to try to curtail Gang violence.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Takako announced that she will be teaching a class on Sushi at the Schott Center on February 2, 2008. Gerald reported that he had received a letter from Jim Wimmer requesting consideration for a Sister City in San Juan Del Rey in Brazil. Gerald sent him the information on the requirements for establishing a Sister City and to date had not received any further communication from Mr. Wimmer. Gil Garcia reported that a city in Mexico is requesting to become a Sister City with Goleta and a delegation from there was in Santa Barbara/Goleta this week to meet with Goleta's Mayor and City Council. The Puerto Vallarta Committee hosted a Reception for them at Goleta Community Center. Discussion was held on encouraging other countries to become Sister Cities to Santa Barbara.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**U.N. DAY CELEBRATION FINAL REPORT:** Takako presented a Financial Report for the U.N. Day Celebration showing a profit of \$178.85

**YOUTH CONFERENCE REPORT:** Roseann Crawford could not attend,

therefore no final report

**SO CAL SISTER CITIES CONFERENCE, FEBRUARY 2, 2008:** Gerald Corrigan said he plans to attend, along with Gil Garcia.

**KOTOR SISTER CITY STATUS:** Gerald said he had received communion from Vesna Lijakovska stating they wish to make a presentation at the March meeting on the progress of getting approval for Kotor to become a Sister City. She reported they have 14 people in the Santa Barbara area that are interested in becoming members and she had received a list from Kotor with 14 members there that are interested. Gerald said he had invited them to come to the March meeting to make their final presentation to the Board for our consideration and approval.

**REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:**

**Santa Barbara/Puerta Vallarta:** Craig Nielsen reported the Annual trip to Puerto Vallarta in December was a success with 55 members making the trip. He said the Committee has many projects going and the latest is the upcoming Irish Concert at the Marjorie Luke Theatre. The ongoing Student Exchange is coming up in March, Strawberry Festival in June and of course Fiesta in August when the people from Puerto Vallarta will be coming to Santa Barbara.

**Toba, Japan:** Linda Mathews reported their New Year's Celebration will be a luncheon to be held on February 23, 2008 at the Congregational Church with a program on Flower Arranging and she extended an invitation to the Board. She reported they soon will be selecting their students to go to Toba this summer for the Student Exchange. Also, the group is planning a trip to Los Angeles this Spring to visit the Japanese Museum.

**Weihai, China:** Sadie Hall reported the Weihai group will be celebrating the Chinese New Year on February 7, 2008 at the Ming Dynasty in Goleta and extended an invitation to the Board to attend. She reported the group is also working on a possible trip to Weihai in 2009. A possibility of a delegation from Weihai may be visiting Santa Barbara this summer. The group has given scholarships to two City College students and have sent books to Weihai. Sadie is the new President for the Weihai group and Dan Fitzgibbons will be the Representative for the Sister Cities Board.

**San Juan, Philippines:** Jeremy Hass made a brief appearance before the meeting started to give the report for the San Juan group which is as follows: A councilman from San Juan will be coming to Santa Barbara for an official visit to the Santa Barbara/San Juan Sister City counterpart in March 2008, his name is Councilman Andoni Carballo. There is a Gospel Choir from the Philippines has been invited to perform here in Santa

**Barbara. Target date is April 15, 2008. There is a lesser known Boys Choir from the Philippines that may perform here in 2008. Jeremy reported a web site is in process of being built for the San Juan group to form as communication/link between San Juan group here and San Juan group in Philippines. Efforts to co-sponsor the "Historical Conference on Galleon Trade (Philippines-America) is in progress. Proposed place the Presidio in first quarter of 2009.**

**Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.**

**Janet M. Baker  
Recording Secretary**