



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



MINUTES

Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board
January 7, 2009

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Takako Wakita at 12:00 Noon. Secretary was asked to call the roll, members present were Takako Wakita, Chairperson; Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; David Gorbet, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Jonas DeLeon and Jaime Sodusta, San Juan, Philippines; Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan. Roger Horton, City Council Liaison and Linda Gunther, Staff Representative.

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the minutes of the November 5, 2008 meeting were approved as corrected. Correction to Toba, Japan representative report - fifth sentence should read "Also, Dan Adler, who ran for the SCI Youth Program Representative position, but lost by one vote, he is planning a trip to Toba on November 14th and plans to visit the Mayor of Toba."

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Takako asked newly appointed Board member, Wayne Hewitt, to introduce himself and tell a little about his background. Mr. Hewitt said that before coming to Santa Barbara that he worked for Robert Bosch Co. which is based in Germany and he did quite a lot of International travel. After moving to Santa Barbara he is now a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones Investment Co. Takako reported she had received an E-Mail from Gerald Corrigan that he has around 1,000 Sister Cities brochures and will get them to City Hall hopefully before the March meeting so Representatives can take a bunch. Roger Horton, since a couple people were late because of parking problems, Roger said that members of the Board can park free at the City Parking Lot #10, just get their ticket stamped in Linda's office.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Takako presented the Calendar of Events for 2009 for review and discussion. She called attention to the SOCAL Meeting and asked if anyone plans to attend. She also reminded about the Main Library display case which is reserved for Sister Cities display for month of March and asked that Representatives please bring their items to the Library between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. on March 1st. Takako also noted the SCI conference will be held in Belfast, Northern Ireland July 29 - August 1st and she is planning to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

UNITED NATIONS DAY FINAL REPORT: Takako reported she had received an E-Mail from the Weihai group billing the Board for \$182.42 for the dessert and coffee. In the past they have always donated these items but said they were not going to donate this time, so our profit now stands at \$39.34, which is the worst we have done in recent years.

DRAFT OF REVISED GUIDELINES FOR ESTABLISHING A NEW SISTER CITY:
Takako said she had made a few changes to the one submitted by Gerald Corrigan

last year and she explained what they were and then called for a vote to approve this draft. After due discussion, on a motion duly made, seconded and carried the revised draft was approved.

SANTA BARBARA CENTRAL LIBRARY DISPLAY, MONTH OF MARCH: Already covered under Calendar of Events

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS: (Limit 3 minutes):

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: David Gorbet reported that about 50 people went on the trip to Puerto Vallarta in December 2008, including the I Madonari artist and three Deputy Sheriff's who went down to train the Puerto Vallarta police on the Police Exchange Program which is in its 5th year. The members visited an Elementary School which is out in rural area and they have been contributing to this school for two years and have gotten them running water and toilets through generous donations of some of the PV members. We also took some gifts for the kids and they put on a little skit for us which was very cute. Also visited the Rehab Clinic which we helped build along with the Rotary Club several years ago and we continue to support them by helping purchase needed supplies and repairs to Clinic. We attended the Police Academy graduation which was very impressive and visited a Rehab for abandoned young boys. David also mentioned that an article in Las Noticias about Janet Baker having received the Beta Sigma Phi International Award of Distinction recently, this is the highest honor awarded active members of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.

San Juan, Philippines: Jaime Sodusta reported they are trying to revive their membership of 32, who have paid dues but haven't been very actively involved in the past. The President of the Philippine Community in Santa Barbara, Virgie Horstman, was sent to San Juan recently and she visited the Mayor of San Juan and presented a letter from Mayor Blum. She was hoping to generate some interest in San Juan to get the program started again. Jaime said they are currently working with DIR to get medical supplies to the Philippines through San Juan for victims of the Typhoon last year.

Toba, Japan: Linda Mathews reported their group has a very special event coming up in January to celebrate the New Year. A celebrated Japanese dancer and film maker will be featured and she will be previewing a film she is working on about a school in Hiroshima that was bombed during WW 2. A Japanese Box dinner will be served and Linda said she hoped to see all of us there, the announcements of this event are in the mail. Linda said they are also starting the process to find students who are interested in going to Japan for the Student Exchange this summer and asked if anyone knows a teen ager that might qualify to get in touch with her. Linda said they are also looking for Chaperones

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Baker, Recording Secretary