



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



MINUTES

Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board
March 4, 2009

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Takako Wakita at 12:00 noon. Roll Call: Members present were Takako Wakita, Chairperson; Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Gil Garcia representing Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in absence of David Gorbet; Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan; Linda Gunther, Staff Representative. Guests: Marti Correa-Garcia, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Mary Ann Freeman, Dingle, Ireland; Joe Cantrell, Weihai, China, George Lilly, Proposed Sister City of Kotor, Montenegro.

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the minutes of the January 7, 2009 were approved as mailed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

SCI 2008 AWARD APPLICATION FOR "OVERALL PROGRAM" CATEGORY: Marti Correa-Garcia presented the information regarding this Sister Cities International Annual Award Recognizing the Achievements of 2008". Marti would like to submit an application for this award on behalf of the Santa Barbara Sister Cities and it requires \$50.00 fee to accompany the application. The application/\$50.00 fee is due to SCI by March 10, 2009. On a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved to provide the \$50.00 fee from the Sister Cities Board funds to support this project. Marti said she would like something from each Sister City about what they have accomplished during the year 2008. The award will be presented at the SCI Conference in July in Belfast, Ireland and Takako Wakita plans to attend as will Marti and Gil Garcia.

REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2009: Takako said the 9/11 Concert is still up in the air for September, more discussion at May meeting. Also, Cinco de Mayo was added for May 2-3rd, this is a fund raiser for Puerto Vallarta Committee and Student Exchange in July with students arriving from Puerto Vallarta. Takako reminded the Representatives if they have something to add to the Calendar to please contact her the week before the May 6th meeting.

LIBRARY DISPLAY AT CENTRAL LIBRARY: Takako reported that only three Sister Cities, Toba, Japan, Weihai, China and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico brought items for display. They will be on display for the month of March at the Santa Barbara Main Library.

PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY TV (CHANNEL 17): Takako reported that she had met with Peter Haslund regarding this program and that each Sister City should consider getting involved. Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson was asked to

be responsible for contacting Mr. Haslund to find out more information regarding this program, assisted by Joe Cantrell, Weihai, China and report findings at May meeting for further consideration.

REPORT OF KOTOR, MONTENEGRO VISITATION: George Lilly, representing the proposed Sister City of Kotor, Montenegro reported that a group of delegates from Santa Barbara recently went to Kotor and met with the Mayor of Kotor for about three hours and he felt that everything went very well. They were also given a tour of the city and attended a Masquerade Ball in conjunction with a local Festival while they were there. He described Kotor to those who have not been there and circulated some pictures that were taken during their visit. He also submitted lists of the different committees that have been formed for the local group and plans are being made for the proposed visit to Santa Barbara of a delegation from Kotor, including their Mayor, in May and they plan to have their first function of the local group a Charity Dinner (Fund Raiser) during the visitation.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS: (Limit 3 minutes)

Dingle, Ireland: Mary Ann Freeman, Membership Chairman for the Dingle group reported that she plans to work with Erin Graffy and some of the others to try and get the group activated again.

Weihai, China: Joe Cantrell a member of the Weihai group reported they had a very successful New Years Celebration attended by about 50 people. He also said that Peter Haslund is preparing to send another group of teachers to Weihai this summer.

Toba, Japan: Linda Mathews reported they also had a very successful New Years Event with 89 in attendance. She is currently working on recruiting students for the exchange program to Toba in August.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: Gil Garcia reported they are working to get sponsors for the Cinco de Mayo event May 2 & 3rd which is a fund raiser for the Puerto Vallarta group. Also, election of new Board will be in April with installation at the May meeting.

San Juan, Philippines: No report given.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Baker, Recording Secretary