

Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission

Minutes

March 18, 2026

7:00 p.m. Kallsen Center

The March 18, 2026 meeting was held in the Kallsen Center and called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Vice Chairman Lucas Hawley who led the meeting via phone.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

- Recognize Commission members present: Chairman David Niemeyer; Secretary/Commissioner Roxane Tyssen; Commissioners: Lucas Hawley - vice chairman, Katy Brand, Jim Muller, Michele Rons
- Absent: Commissioners: Isam Kiswani, George Rohde; Trustee Liaison, William Brady; Staff Liaison: Walker Steinke

Approval of Minutes:

- The January 2026 minutes were read and approved (no quorum in February).

Sister City Updates:

Büdingen, Germany Update:

- Sieglinde has been in touch with the artist for a bench to be produced there. There is nothing additional to report on the progress.
- There are no updates for Büdingen.

Mallow, Ireland Update:

- A recap of the March 12th event at Vaughn's Emerald Loop Club.
 - Our group met the new mayor of County Cork and made multiple connections that should get us closer with Mallow.

Nowy Sącz, Poland:

- Nothing to report.

Prospective Sister Cities:

Jordan, Aqaba:

- As it is still the observance of Ramadan, we have not had any communications.

Opishinia, Ukraine:

- Dave Niemeyer announced that a conference (Teams) call is scheduled on March 31st. Several of the commissioners have done some basic research and are looking forward to the call.
- Walker Steinke will set up the call.

Old Business:

- Nothing to report.

New and Continuing Business:

- America's 250th anniversary
 - Walker will work with us to set up a way to submit answers to our questions through the VOTP website.
 - Share – military experiences for the 250th but then pivot and have it so that anyone who has participated in student exchanges or visited or lived in our sister cities (or other communities outside of the United States) can also share their experiences.
 - Create a video scrapbook to share photos and verbal stories that can be shown at a variety of locations such as VOTP public buildings, at the historical society and Vogt Art Center, and at the VFW and American Legion located in Tinley Park.
 - Use a QR code so others can scan it and use the link to share.

Public comments/Announcements:

- There was no public for comments.

Adjourned:

- David Niemeyer asked for a motion to adjourn, Roxane Tyssen made the motion, Jim Muller seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kallsen Center.