

**Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission
Minutes
September 20, 2017**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

The pledge was recited.

Present: Commission Chair Michael Hiss; Secretary/Commissioner Roxane Tyssen; Commissioners: Marilyn Bill, Lucas Hawley, and Jim Muller.

Absent: Commissioners: Jeannie Krichbaum, Diane Przybylski

Agenda was reviewed and accepted: Commissioner: Bill motioned, Tyssen seconded.

August 16, 1017 SCC minutes were reviewed and accepted as written. Motion to accept, Commissioner: Bill motioned, Hiss seconded.

The Special Meeting Skype Notes were reviewed and accepted as written. Commissioner: Bill motioned, Tyssen seconded. Accepted as written. No quorum was present for this meeting.

Sister City Updates:

Büdingen Sister City Update:

Commissioner Lucas Hawley was formally recognized for representing Tinley Park in Büdingen this summer when he visited there. This letter is attached.

They are very excited about doing another Skype. A tentative date of November 11th is the next requested session. This is the start of their Carnival season - "season of indulgence". During the call, they will be wearing clown noses, we should have fun with it as well.

Recipe exchange:

Before our next Skype call, we will have an open community contest for the best pumpkin pie recipe. A taste testing will be held at village hall either October 14 or 21 (pending conference room availability and the approval from the Village). This is for a traditional pumpkin pie recipe only. In return we will get the onion cake recipe from our counter parts in Büdingen. RFP rules may apply. Gifts for the winner will be provided. Items with the Village Crest and local restaurant gift cards will be prizes provided from the Sister City Commission.

October 2018:

Robert Zimmer will look for paperwork that might be at the Village for information regarding the last visit by our German friends. Michael stated that Ed Zabrocki offered to assist in finding host families. Their stay will be a 10-day minimum visit/2-weeks at the most. This coincides with a holiday break on their end. Michael stated that he feels that no more than 30 people will come over.

Julie Dekker of Vogt would like to host a gallery event during their visit. Other items for people do that were mentioned was a walking Chicago architectural tour. We still have quite a bit of time to plan activities for their visit.

Mallow:

No news. Michael will reach out again. Jim stated he will reach out as well with his contacts. The intent is to get them into the Skype schedule. We would like to eventually do the same things with them that we are doing with Büdingen.

Poland: Still waiting on reviewing the documentation. There has been a change of administration on their end as well.

Austin: They have a very extensive process to be a sister city with them. Lucas will need to update us on his contact through Ken Shaw.

Oktoberfest:

Beth Ruff from the Chamber of Commerce discussed the event with us so that we could determine if we would like to participate. The SCC would have a 10x10 tent there that we would be responsible for manning and decorating. The hours will be: Friday 5-10 p.m., Saturday 1-10 p.m., and Sunday 1-6 p.m. All local breweries have been invited, Salina's catering, Chef Klaus, as well as a carnival and vendor show will be present. According to Beth, their FB page has had over 6K responses. They are estimating 3K in attendance through the weekend. Jackie from the Chamber spoke next. There will be individual beer tents, music, and dancers from the German Society of Rockford will be attending. The event will be at the 80th Ave Metra Station, off 179th and 80th Ave (north lot). Roxane and Jim are available for Friday, Jim & Michael can be there Saturday and Marilyn & Lucas will be there on Sunday. SCC has full go on Social Media to promote our presence there. Marilyn has Oktoberfest decorations for us to use. The Commission voted to committ to being there.

Tree Sponsorship:

Beth on behalf of the Chamber stated that as soon as Oktoberfest is done they will contact us for our tree. It will be displayed mid-Nov through early January. They put the lights on, we are responsible for decorating the tree. She stated that the decoration generally is held the 3rd Sat in November - November 18th this year - in the morning (9-noon). This depends on when the trees come in. We are on the list to contact once details have been sorted out. There will be a \$150 fee for the tree, these funds are in our budget.

Michael has images now from Büdingen to make ornaments from. We will print these out and Jim stated he can laminate them for no fee. Additionally, Marilyn has some ideas to make bells out of recycled material that has been painted.

Chriskindlemarket:

Rich was able to coordinate with German Chamber downtown for us to have a reserved table on December 7th for our group. This table will be in the back of one of the beer tents. Information will go on the Oktoberfest postcard that we will be handing out.

Internship:

Bastion now has an internship for at least 4 of the days he will be here. He will shadow the athletic director at the Tinley Park Park District. Additionally, Mary Ann Troc will also be working to have him do

some other small jobs at the Park District. It will satisfy the requirements for his high school. The SCC is facilitating relationships for internships between the two schools but through the SC organizations.

2020 Visit to Büdingen:

We are looking at the last 2 weeks in July per Edda's recommendation. This would be the best time for both them and us. Their school year is not started yet and on our end, students are still on summer break. We have no specific dates yet. There will be plenty of local festivals going on at this time for our group to attend.

Promo Materials:

We are still waiting on final branding approval from the Village.

Cultural Exchange:

Julie Dekker is excited to work with us on an art exchange. In Büdingen, July 14, 2018 is their artist night and would be the best time for the exchange. We will try to encourage artists from here to go there for that.

TPSC Artwork Collection:

Jim has built a free standing display that is portable and should be able to handle weather (wind). Per Michael, we will be able to have this on display at the entrance to Village Hall. It is built for easy break down and assembly should it need to be moved.

TPSC Branding:

Michael is working with the marketing team on this. We would like to take the flags of our sister (or twinning) cities and overlay into the new branding logo.

New Business: none

Public:

Thank you to Beth and the Chamber for coming.

Motion to adjourn: Commissioner: Hawley 1st, Muller 2nd.

Adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Addendum:

**Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission
Special Meeting – Meeting Notes
Saturday, September 16, 2017**

Commission Attendance:

Chairman Michael Hiss

Village Board Attendance:

Village Clerk Kristin Thirion

Trustee Cynthia Berg

Public:

Elyse Maloney

John McErlean

Call to Order:

Michael Hiss called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM

Pledge of Allegiance was Recited

Recognize Commission members present:

- Michael Hiss introduced himself and also requested that the members of the Village Board introduce themselves.
- Village Clerk Kristin Thirion and Trustee Cynthia Berg introduced themselves.
- **Skype Conference with Büdingen:**
Due to some technical difficulties, the Skype Conference began at 10:15 AM (CST), 5:15 PM (GMT).

Büdingen Member Introductions:

- Sieglinde Huxhorn-Engler
- Edda Degenhardt
- Egbert Linden

Topics and Questions Discussed:

- Art symbols for Christmas Tree:

- Michael Hiss thanked Edda Degenhardt for sending the Sister City commission some images. The Sister Cities commission intends to utilize these images for the creation of some Christmas tree ornaments for the Tinley Park Holiday Market. When asked if the Commission would like some additional images, including pictures of the castles or

historical parts of the town, he indicated that the commission would love additional images. He indicated that by having them in a digital format, the commission would have the flexibility to utilize them for not only the Christmas tree, but future projects and initiatives. Edda Degenhardt indicated that she would arrange to have more images sent to the Tinley Park Sister Cities. Michael Hiss indicated that he would bring this information back to the Tinley Park Sister Cities commission for review.

- 2018 Büdingen Delegation to Tinley Park:

- Michael Hiss started this discussion by requesting that the delegation not occur during the last two weeks of August or the last two weeks in June. Edda Degenhardt proposed that the delegation occur around October 2, 2018. That date would coincide with their Fall Holiday. Edda Degenhardt indicated that she was going to assist our commission by sending an introductory email introducing Michael Hiss to some of their previous contacts. She hopes that this will assist in our commissions search for host families. Michael Hiss indicated how appreciative he would be for that. Michael Hiss stated that the Vogt Art Center wanted to host a gala in their honor. Edda Degenhardt and Sieglinde Huxhorn-Engler indicated their appreciation. Michael Hiss indicated that he would bring this information back to the Tinley Park Sister Cities commission for review.

- 2020 Tinley Park Delegation to Büdingen:

- Michael Hiss indicated how excited he was that Büdingen is offering us this opportunity. He indicated that the end of the Summer would be the best time for our community. After a lot of discussion, it was determined that the last two weeks in July would be the best timeframe. Edda Degenhardt and Sieglinde Huxhorn-Engler indicated that this would be a great time for us to visit, and also that they would arrange a trip to one of the festivals in a nearby town. Michael Hiss indicated that he would bring this information back to the Tinley Park Sister Cities commission for review.

- Büdingen Resident's Internship:

- Michael Hiss indicated how excited he was that a Büdingen resident, Bastian, is going to be coming to visit our community in October, beginning on October 7, 2017. Michael Hiss explained that Bastian was a former exchange student, and that he was interested on an internship opportunity that had an Athletic focus. He indicated that the commission was able to obtain an internship opportunity where Bastian will be able to shadow the Athletic Director of the Tinley Park Park District, Ron Woodworth, for a few days. Michael Hiss stated that the commission was very happy to arrange this opportunity and that we hope to arrange more for Büdingen residents in the future! Edda Degenhardt and Sieglinde Huxhorn-Engler both indicated that they would love the opportunity to do something similar for our Tinley residents! Michael Hiss indicated that he would bring this information back to the Tinley Park Sister Cities commission for review.

- Art Exchange:

- Michael Hiss indicated that the Vogt Art Center was beginning to coordinate with their artists to do an art exchange. Edda Degenhardt and Sieglinde Huxhorn-Engler indicated that that seemed really nice. They also indicated that there will be an Artists festival on either July 7, 2018 or July 14, 2018. They indicated how their French Sister City was able to send a few of their artists to visit for this one day festival. He indicated that he would share this information with the artists at the Vogt Art Center to determine if they would be interested in attending next year's festival! Michael Hiss indicated that he would bring this information back to the Tinley Park Sister Cities commission for review.

- Recipe Exchange:

- Michael Hiss indicated that there was interest in doing a recipe exchange. Edda Degenhardt and Sieglinde Huxhorn-Engler loved the idea! Sieglinde Huxhorn-Engler requested that for our first exchange, that we share with them our best Pumpkin Pie recipe. In exchange for the Pumpkin Pie recipe, they would provide us with their best Onion Cake recipe! Edda Degenhardt explained that Büdingen had recently started celebrating Halloween. She explained how the first year it was very comical. A lot of the residents were not aware of the protocol for Halloween and kept slamming the door in trick-or-treater faces! It was shown that both sides had food and drink, and there was some reminiscing about the first Skype conference call in which Edda Degenhardt was serving a German marble cake on her side of the conference call. Michael Hiss indicated that he would bring this information back to the Tinley Park Sister Cities commission for review.

- Next Skype Session:

- Michael Hiss indicated that there was interest in doing the next Skype session in November. Edda Degenhardt and Sieglinde Huxhorn-Engler agreed that doing another session before the holidays was ideal. They requested that the next Skype session be on November 11, 2017! They indicated that it was the beginning of Fasching Season. Fasching Season is Germany's carnival season, and Edda Degenhardt indicated that they should wear clown noses. Michael Hiss indicated that he would bring this information back to the Tinley Park Sister Cities commission for review.

Public Comments:

- No public comments.

Adjournment:

- Michael Hiss adjourned the meeting at 11:15 AM.