

Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission Minutes

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

7:00 p.m. Kallsen Conference Center

Call to Order 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners present were recognized.

Recognize Commission members present: Chairman/Commissioner Patrick Rea; Secretary/Commissioner Roxane Tyssen; Commissioners: Julie Dekker, Kurt Dekker, Lucas Hawley, Sarah Krause, Jim Muller, and George Rohde.

Staff Liaison: Dominic Sanfilippo

Absent: Commissioner Marilyn Bill

Minutes were reviewed and read from October 16, 2019. George made a motion to approve, seconded, all in favor. Motion passed, minutes from October 16, 2019 were approved.

Minutes were reviewed and read from November 2, 2019. This was a special meeting of a video conference call with Büdingen. George motioned to approve, Lucas seconded. Motion passed, minutes from October 16, 2019 were approved.

Sister City Updates:

Büdingen Update:

- 2019 Visitation:
 - Lucas has updated the commission on the delegation. Jim Muller and his guest Michelle will be joining the group on the trip to Germany. Additionally, there may be one more person who will be joining us. We will keep our counterparts in Germany apprised.
 - Transportation to the airport from Tinley Park will be discussed with Dominck Sanfillio. He suggested the possibility of an Uber or Lyft XL. He will be pricing it out.
 - Pat relayed that HRH Princess Elizabeth is likely to meet us in Büdingen.
 - Ronnenberg Castle is still in the making.
 - 30-Year Anniversary Gift:
 - ❖ Kurt and Julie Dekker met with Steve Wienert, the artist, over the weekend to pick up the artwork and to return with it to Tinley Park. We thanked them for the extended effort made to retrieve it.
 - ❖ He has authorized the Commission to make copies as we see fit.
 - Host Family Gifts:
 - ❖ Discussed was for the group to be give copies of the artwork to present to their host family. The Village will supply all who are traveling there with flags of the

Village of Tinley Park. Dominick updated the Commission that he is putting together some swag bags for the host families.

Mallow Sister City Update:

- Lucas has heard from the people in Mallow that he reached out to. This was the Municipal Administrator from Mallow and from John Paul O'Shea. It is John Paul's brother who is now the representative for Mallow in County Cork.
- We are still exploring the idea of taking on a second sister/twinning city in Ireland.
- Julie mentioned a man from the Historical Society who manages the You Know You Are From Tinley Park radio show on 90.9 FM. She contacted Phil about doing a segment with regards to Mallow, and the Irish connection with our Sister City there. We will keep this on the agenda and revisit after the holiday.

Prospective Sister City Updates:

- Nowy Sącz, Poland - Update:
 - Pat relayed an update with regards to Nowy Sącz. They are pleased to work with us to elevate our status from a "friendship" city to an official sister/twinning city. We will revisit this after the new year.
 - The Commission will also reach out to St. Stevens in Tinley Park to see if any of their parishioners would be interested in being associate commissioners specifically dedicated to Nowy Sącz and translating for us.
- Canadian Sister City:
 - Roxane will touch base with Nicole this week to get a feel for her thoughts on not just Ottawa, ON, CA but on a second one that would be closer to drive.
- Jordanian Sister City:
 - Pat has been forwarding the announcements from the Jordanian Embassy. He has mentioned that the country of Jordan has approached him on hosting a Engineer who is from Oman and has an interest of an internship with the Village of Tinley Park.
 - Pat reiterated to the Commission on having Accaba, Jordan as a sister city. Mr. Ihssan Sweiss, Honorary Consul General for Jordan in Chicago would like to host a luncheon at the Jordanian Consulate. We will discuss further after the first of the year. Jim Muller suggested that we go ahead and set a meeting with him for the lunch.

New Business:

- Pat will be hosting a Christmas reception on December 8, 2019 for Congressman Lipinski. He invited the Commissioners who will not be traveling to Büdingen, to his house for this.
- Tinley Park Holiday Festival: This falls on the same weekend as the visit to Büdingen. Pat suggested that we have a date/time to set to invite Tinley Park festival attendees to skype or otherwise "call" Büdingen, Germany. Dominic will talk with Marketing and we will get something set.
- Tinley Park Irish Day Parade: This is a placeholder on the agenda.

Old Business:

- Chicago Christkindle Market Gathering: Lucas reported on the meet and greet on the 18th. Rob Zimmer, Michael Hiss, Lucas Hawley, Jim Muller and a few other friends met at the döner

kebab food stand. After eating some shopping was done, all and all it was an enjoyable outing.

- Angie Brady, Bernie Brady's wife is a suggestion for an associate commissioner position. They have hosted exchange students before and he was a trustee liaison to the Commission when he was a trustee. She is well traveled and would be a welcome addition.

Public Comments:

- Jim's friend Michelle is excited to be joining the group on the trip.

George motioned to adjourned, Julie seconded. All approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

The next meeting will be December 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kallsen Center (this is a reschedule from the regular meeting which is normally held on the third Wednesday of the month due to a conflict).