

Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission
Minutes
Wednesday, September 16, 2020
7:00 p.m. Village Chambers

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Instructions were conveyed to all present with regards to COVID safety procedures.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Recognize Commission members present: Chairman/Commissioner Patrick Rea; Secretary/Commissioner Roxane Tyssen; Commissioners: Lucas Hawley, Jim Muller, Michele Rons, and Rob Zimmer; Associate Commissioners: Julie and Kurt Dekker

Staff Liaison: David Niemeyer

Absent: Commissioners Marilyn Bill, George Rohde, and Sarah Krause

Guests: Trustee William Brady

Minutes were reviewed and read from August 19, 2020. made a motion to approve, seconded, all in favor. Motion passed, minutes from August 19, 2020 were approved.

Sister City Updates:

Büdingen, Germany Update:

- Lucas Hawley commented on Büdingen. Things are getting back to normal, he has spoken with friends there and they are returning to school, back to work, et.al.
- Discussions on the Büdingen bench project were had. Roxane will reach out to Sieglinde Huxorn-Engler again so that we can provide specs to our local bench artists so that drawings can be made.

Mallow, Ireland Update:

- There is no update on Mallow directly, however Commissioner Muller stated that flights are still being restricted to/from Ireland and that they are still experiencing upticks in reported COVID cases.

Nowy Sącz, Poland:

- The Commissioners were provided with a second draft of the resolution in English for approval. Rob Zimmer motioned to approve the English version, Roxane Tyssen seconded, all were in favor, the motion approved. Roxane Tyssen motioned for the Sister Cities Resolution in English to be translated into Polish, Rob Zimmer seconded, all approved, motion carried. Trustee Brady offered to have friends who speak Polish also help with translations if need be.
- We should be prepared to forward signed copies to the Polish Counsel General in Chicago so that they can forward to Nowy Sącz.
- Once travel becomes possible, we can plan to visit accordingly.

Prospective Sister Cities:

Jordan:

- Chairman Patrick Rea updated the Commission on Jordan and Aqaba. The Counsel General of the Jordanian Consulate in Chicago has reached out to Chairman Rea and noted that he has spoken with officials in Aqaba who are very excited to move forward with an agreement as soon as possible.
- As with Poland, there are travel restrictions between the United States and Jordan at this time, going there may not prove to be difficult but coming back into the U.S. may be problematic.

Canada:

- Roxane Tyssen stated that she has not heard from Cobourg. She will reach out to them again. Note that there is no urgency for a response, but one would be appreciated.

New and Upcoming Business:

- The Tinley Park Holiday Market is still undecided. Julie Dekker, who is on the Marketing Committee, gave a brief update on where things are standing. Dave Niemeyer also made statements on what the Village is looking to do and alternate solutions as to what options they have.

Old Business:

- Commissioner Update: The Village Board has approved the commissioner changes. Michele Rons and Rob Zimmer are now Commissioners and Julie and Kurt Dekker are now Associate Commissioners.

Public comments:

- Trustee Bill Brady was present and introduced himself. Bill is now assigned as our Trustee Liaison. Chairman Rea gave him a warm welcome.
 - He inquired about our relations with Mallow, Ireland. The Commission brought Trustee Brady up to speed on our status with them, including the need to recognize our 20-year anniversary with them in 2021 (May).
- Pat discussed hosting a small Christmas gathering for the Commissioners, keeping social distancing a top priority.
- Julie Dekker happened to speak with Ron Centini about the Commission and more specifically regarding Jordan and Acaba. Ron has contacts in Jordan, especially in Acaba, and would love to assist in any way possible.
- She thanked the Commissioners who came out on September 12th for the Thomas P. Curtis II gallery reception.

Adjourned:

- Roxane Tyssen motioned to adjourn, Pat Rea seconded, all were in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.