

# Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission Minutes

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

6:30 p.m. Village Chambers

Meeting called to order at 6:36 p.m.

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

Commissioners present were recognized.

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

Staff Liaison: David Niemeyer

Absent: Commissioners Julie and Kurt Dekker

Guests: Rob Zimmer and Michele Rons

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes were reviewed and read from February 19, 2020.

George Rohde made a motion to approve, Jim Muller seconded, all in favor. Motion passed, minutes from February 19, 2020 were approved.

## **Sister City Updates:**

### Büdingen, Germany Update:

- Germany is opening up schools and other businesses. Otherwise everyone is doing well as far as we know.
- Our friends there are concerned about us and how we are doing. Communications will continue with them.

### Mallow, Ireland Update:

- David Niemeyer informed the Commission that Pat Carr has offered to assist with communications with our friends in Mallow.
- With regards to COVID, Ireland as a whole is handling the pandemic quite well. We all hoped that this will continue.

### Nowy Sącz, Poland:

- Rob Zimmer stated that it still stands where it did in February. We have an English version, but it needs to be translated into Polish. The Commission will review the English version and approve the copy for translation at next month's meeting.

## **Prospective Sister Cities:**

### Jordan:

- Patrick Rea updated the Commission on Jordan and Aqaba. They are ready for us to visit them, everything will be dependent on COVID and travel restrictions.

#### Canada:

- Roxane Tyssen stated that she has heard from Cobourg during the time the Sister Cities Commission was on hiatus.

#### **New and Upcoming Business:**

- Sister Cities Commission Meeting Dates through the end of the year were reviewed.
  - Other commissions have been meeting or are beginning to resume their meetings.
- Budget: The 2020 budget was discussed. New budgets begin on May 1 and goes through April 30.
  - The Commission will need to look at potential expenditures for any events with Jordan as well as what we need to do to recognize the 20th anniversary with Mallow, Ireland.
  - A small budget for marketing materials was discussed.
- Christkindle Market (Chicago) was briefly mentioned. Since Chicago has canceled most of the events to date, this is another occasion that will not likely take place.
- It is unknown whether or not the Oktoberfest and the Tinley Park Holiday Market events will take place this year.
- Sister Cities International 2021 Awards: Every year SCI has awards for various subjects. Roxane Tyssen has been communicating with SCI directly and they are exploring adding a sister cities longevity award per her suggestion that it would be nice to have. The various award categories were mentioned.

#### **Old Business:**

- Associate Commissioner Update: The Village Board has been dealing with priority topics and this has not yet come up.
  - It was mentioned that as we add additional sister cities to our program, we may need to consider making a request to add additional commissioners.
  - Rob Zimmer stated that as we expand our sister city connections, we should think about how they manage their multiple city to city relationships; this would entail assigning specific commissioners to specific cities.
- Irish Day Parade Reflections:
  - The Commissioners that attended the parade offered their overall thoughts on the day. Everyone concurred that it was a fantastic day.

#### **Public comments:**

- No public comments.

#### **Adjourned:**

- George Rohde to adjourn, Marilyn Bill seconded, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.