

Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission Minutes Wednesday, September 15, 2021 7:00 p.m. Village Chambers

The September 15, 2021 meeting was held in the Village Chamber.

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

- Recognize Commission members present: Chairman/Commissioner Patrick Rea; Secretary/Commissioner Roxane Tyssen; Commissioners: Lucas Hawley, Jim Muller, Michele Rons, George Rohde, and Mike Roche; Associate Commissioner: Andrae Marak
- Staff Liaison: David Niemeyer
- Trustee Liaison: William Brady
- Absent: Commissioners: Sarah Krause, Rob Zimmer; Associate Commissioners: Julie & Kurt Dekker

Approval of Minutes:

- Approval of August 18, 2021 Sister Cities Commission Meeting Minutes: Lucas Hawley made the motion to approve the minutes, George Rohde seconded; All in favor. Motion to approve August 18, 2021 minutes passed.

Sister City Updates:

Büdingen, Germany Update:

- Both Federal and local elections are being held on September 26th. It looks like the CDU candidate for Burgermeister, is the frontrunner.
- Discussions were had on who should thank Burgermeister Spammer for his years of dedication to the people of Büdingen and for all of the hospitality afforded to visitors from Tinley Park.

Mallow, Ireland Update:

- Nothing to report.

Nowy Sącz, Poland:

- Sign installation went very well. Photos have been sent to Dr. Radic of the event.
- Commissioner Tyssen reported that one of her neighbors may be able to help with translations for video calls or written communication.

Prospective Sister Cities:

Jordan, Aqaba:

- Mr. Ihsan Sweiss, Counsel General of The Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, was not able to attend this month's meeting. Additional communication will be going out to him for next month's meeting.

Palestine, Bir Zeit:

- Chairman Rea updated the Commission on the University of Bir Zeit. A wing of the University has been dedicated to honor a donor who has gifted annual donations

Municipality of Ghadamis, Libya:

- A recap of the last conference call was given. This is a working relationship between the International City/County Management Association, the Village of Tinley Park's Village Manager's Office, and the counsel in Ghadamis where various topics are discussed.
- While this is not a sister cities relationship, our Commissioners can offer valuable input in some instances. The Commission will support this working relationship in any way we can.
- Dave Niemeyer, Village Manager, updated the Commission on the progress of these calls and the importance that this program gives towards international relations.

Additional Potential Sister Cities

- Having a sister city in Mexico was discussed.

Old Business:

- Nothing to report.

New and Upcoming Business:

- Oktoberfest 2021 – Most of the slots have volunteers to fill them. It looks like almost everything will be covered with the exception for a few hours on Sunday.
 - Updated brochures were handed out for the Commission to review. These will be available at the Oktoberfest tent.
- Holiday Market 2021 – The commissioners agreed to have a presence at the Market and assist the Village with distributing tickets for photos with Santa.
- The Commission will look into obtaining flags from our Sister Cities to display at events.

Public comments/Announcements:

- Dave Niemeyer announced that he will be stepping down as Village Manager as of October 9.
 - He will still have a presence within the Village to assist with the transition.
 - His new endeavor will be recruiting village managers for other municipalities across the country.
 - Dave will be staying with the Commission as a commissioner replacing Rob Zimmer's position.
- Lucas Hawley updated the Commission on some of our past visitors from Büdingen. One of our friends there has joined the German military and is doing very well.
- Holiday gatherings were discussed.

Adjourned:

- George Rhode motioned to adjourn, Lucas Hawley seconded, all were in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.