



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

ALDERMAN JOE DAVIS, SR., CHAIR
Daisy Cubias, Al Durtka, Charles Vang and Kathy Blair

Staff Assistant, Terry MacDonald, (414)-286-2233
Fax: (414) 286-3456, E-mail: tmacdo@milwaukee.gov
File Specialist, Charlotte Rodriguez, 286-8797, E-mail: crodri@milwaukee.gov

Monday, March 24, 2008

1:30 PM

Room 301-B , City Hall

Meeting convened: 1:41 P.M.

1. Roll call

Ald. Davis welcomed Ms. Kathy Blair, the Commissioner of Health Bevan Baker's new designee who is replacing Dr. Vivian Chen.

Present 5 - Blair RN, Cubias, Davis, Durtka, Vang

Also present: Ronald Leonhardt-City Clerk and Amy Hefter-Legislation Reference Bureau

2. Approval of the minutes of the February 25, 2008 meeting

Mr. Durtka moved approval of the minutes, Ms. Cubias seconded. There were no objections.

3. Review and approval of applications

Ald. Davis said the two applications that will be reviewed today are Manisa, Turkey (Common Council File #071506) and uMhlathuze, South Africa (Common Council File #071584).

He asked if there were any questions by committee members on the applications.

Ms. Cubias said that there was a Turkish organization that appeared in Milwaukee last week and asked if any one had the chance to meet with them?

Ald. Davis replied in the negative and said his office wasn't contacted by the organization, but he was advised that the Mayor's Office was contacted, but could not meet with the organization.

Ms. Cubias said that it was too short of a notice for the Mayor to meet with the organization, because they were coming to Milwaukee on March 17th through the 19th and the Mayor's Office received the request the Friday of the week before. She said she did contact the organization and informed them about this sister city relationship request. She said Mr. Miranda with Esperanza Unida, Inc. was also notified that the organization was coming to Milwaukee.

Ald. Davis asked Ms. MacDonald if the application that was submitted by Esperanza Unida, Inc. is a complete application?

Ms. MacDonald replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Durtka said that he is still confused on the relationship between Esperanza Unida, Inc., who proposed the sister city relationship between Milwaukee and Manisa, Turkey and the local Turkish community organization, as to whether or not it has been established.

Ald. Davis asked if it the pleasure of the committee to hold this application for further review?

A motion was made by Mr. Durtka and Ms. Cubias seconded, that the application be held for further review. The motion prevailed. (3-1). Ald. Davis objected.

Ald. Davis said that he is objecting because the application before them that was submitted by Esperanza Unida, Inc. is a complete application.

Ald. Davis said the next application before this committee for consideration is for uMhlathuze, South Africa.

Mr. Leonhardt appeared and said that at the time the application was distributed to the members and staff it was not complete and asked if it has been completed since then?

Ms. MacDonald replied that it has been completed. She said that the completed application is included in the member's packets that were given to them at start of the meeting.

Ald. Davis said he has a video for the committee members to see on the City of uMhlathuze. The members and staff viewed the video. (10 minute video)

Ald. Davis said the application that is before us is a complete application and asked for a motion to approve and forward it on to the Community and Economic Development Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Durtka and Ms. Cubias seconded, to approve the uMhlathuze, South Africa application and to forward it on to the Community and Economic Development Committee. There were no objections. (Ald. Davis abstained)

Ald. Davis said that now that this committee approved the uMhlathuze, South Africa application he can announce that on April 29, 2008, there will be an event call South African freedom day that will be held at Discovery World. He said he will have invitations for each of the Sister Cities Committee members to attend. He also said that the agreement signing ceremony will take place on May 1, 2008.

4. Review of current sister city relationships

Ald. Davis said a letter has been received from Ms. Wilma Giese regarding the sister city relationship with Schwerin, Germany (Exhibit 1). The letter states that the German-American Societies of Milwaukee met and voted to discontinue the Sister City Relationship between Milwaukee and Schwerin, Germany.

A motion was made by Mr. Durtka and Ms. Blair seconded, to terminate the sister city relationship with Schwerin, Germany at this time. There were no objections.

Ald. Davis asked Mr. Leonhardt tell the committee members about the e-mail that he received from a Mr. Soojin Choi with Seongnam, South Korea.

Mr. Leonhardt explained that Mr. Soojin Choi's e-mail requested the procedures on how to go about establishing sister city relationship with Milwaukee (Exhibit 2).

Ald. Davis said that the Consul General for Korea was here about two months ago at a formal event and told him that he is seeking a sister city relationship between Milwaukee and South Korea. Ald. Davis said he will be contacting the Consul General for Korea who is located in Chicago to brief him on the procedures and recommend that he send a formal letter requesting a sister city relationship.

Ald. Davis asked Ms. Cubias if she knows what is going on with the sister city relationship with Nuevitas, Cuba.

Ms. Cubias said that Mr. Raul Galvan said he doesn't want to move forward with a formal application at this time, because the USA government does not have a relationship with Cuba.

Ald. Davis asked Mr. Leonhardt if he has any suggestions in how to handle the relationship with Nuevitas, Cuba.

Mr. Leonhardt said the committee has several options on how to handle the sister city relationship with Nuevitas, Cuba; it can proceed to terminate the relationship, it can give Mr. Galvan time to contact Ald. Davis on what his intent is or it can just leave the relationship on the books for now.

Ald. Davis recommended that they hold Nuevitas, Cuba at this time and instruct the City Clerk's Staff to contact Mr. Galvan to get clarification from him on his intent for the sister city relationship with Nuevitas, Cuba.

A motion was made by Ms. Cubias and Mr. Durtka seconded, to hold Nuevitas, Cuba until the next Sister Cities Committee meeting, in order to give the City Clerk's Office staff time to contact Mr. Galvan to get clarification from him on his intent for the sister city relationship between Milwaukee and Nuevitas, Cuba. There were no objections.

5. Review and approval of the Sister Cities Committee annual reports

Ald. Davis said that according to s. 320-47 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinance, the Sister Cities Committee is required to submit an annual report. He said Ms. MacDonald has prepared the 2006 and 2007 annual reports. He said the members should have draft copies of the reports before them for their review. He asked if there are any questions or comments on the reports?

Mr. Durtka asked that both reports be amended by inserting his full formal name. (Alexander Durtka, Jr.) There were no objections.

A motion was made by Mr. Durtka and Ms. Cubias seconded, to approve the 2006 report and to refer it to the Community and Economic Development Committee for final approval.

A motion was made by Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Durtka seconded, to approve the 2007 report and to refer it to the Community and Economic Development Committee for final approval.

6. Next meeting date and time

Ald. Davis said that due to the April elections, the next meeting will have to take place in May 2008. He said City Clerk's staff will contact the members to set the next meeting date.

Meeting adjourned: 2:19 P.M.

*Terry J. MacDonald
Staff Asistant*

MILWAUKEE – SCHWERIN SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

(sponsored by German-American Societies, Inc.)

Committee Members:

Wilma M. Giese, Chair
Frank Schmitz, (*Ex-officio*
Pres., German-American Societies, Inc.)
Dr. Garry Davis
Alexander P. Durtka, Jr.
Hans Lange
Hon. Ted E. Wedemeyer, Jr.

Wilma M. Giese
2824 N. Prospect Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211
Phone: (414) 962-9683
Fax: (414) 906-1509

February 23, 2008

Sister Cities Committee
Alderman Joe Davis, Jr., Chair
City of Milwaukee
City Hall
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

SUBJECT: Sister City Relationship Milwaukee – Schwerin
Your letter of February 4, 2008

Dear Alderman Davis:

In response to your letter of February 4, 2008 we can inform you that on April 9, 2007 the Presidents of the German-American Societies of Milwaukee in their monthly meeting voted to discontinue the existing Sister City Relationship Milwaukee-Schwerin due to apparent lack of further interest from both sides.

Please be advised that Mr. Frank Schmitz is not the President of the German Immersion Society. He is the President of the Austrian Society of Milwaukee and the President of the German-American Societies of Milwaukee. We do have, however, a German Immersion School on the north side of Milwaukee.

We can inform you that our suburban town of Brookfield has a Sister City Relationship with Seligenstadt (near Frankfurt/Main). You may address yourself for more information to the mayor of Brookfield.

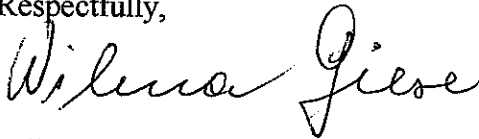


Sister Cities Committee
Alderman Joe Davis, Jr., Chair
February 23, 2008

At this time, the Presidents of the German-American Societies of Milwaukee have not discussed any further matter of possible Sister City Relationships with any German cities.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (414) 962-9683 (home phone).

Respectfully,



Wilma M. Giese
Corr. Secy. German-American Soc. of Milwaukee
Coordinator Sister City Relationship
Milwaukee-Schwerin
World Citizen Awardee 2000 – International
Institute of Wisconsin



Frank Schmitz
President, German-American
Societies of Milwaukee

cc: Tom Barrett, Mayor of Milwaukee
Dr. Garry Davis
Alexander P. Durtka, Jr.
Hans Lange
Hon. Ted E. Wedemeyer, Jr.
Consulate General of the FRG of Germany

MacDonald, Terry

From: Leonhardt, Ronald
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2008 8:08 AM
To: Davis Sr., Joe
Cc: MacDonald, Terry
Subject: FW: Regarding sister city-

Ald. Davis: Would you like us to reply and provide some basic information about our program and our city, or would you like to reply as Chair of the Sister Cities Committee?

Ronald D. Leonhardt, City Clerk
 City of Milwaukee
 200 E. Wells St., Room 205
 Milwaukee, WI 53202
 Phone: 414-286-2221
 Fax: 414-286-2902
 Email: Ronald.Leonhardt@milwaukee.gov

From: ChoiSoojin [mailto:sue_tree@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2008 1:00 AM
To: Leonhardt, Ronald
Subject: Regarding sister city-

Dear Ronald D. Leonhardt

I'm soojin Choi who is working for a city government in S. Korea. I'm responsible for international relations in Seongnam city and mainly do sister city works of our city.

This year, our city is planning to expand sister city relationship and now is seeking for a city that matches our city and work together as our great partnership city. We are considering Milwaukee as a promising counterpart.

Our city has three sister cities and carry out exchange programs of youth, civil servants and performing arts delegation and it consolidated friendship between cities and residents realized the outcome of having twin cities.

For this, I'd like to know the procedure of establishing sister city relationship there and would like to find out with whom should I contact regarding this matter..

I will be very glad if you could explain this to me and suggest a possible way to build relationship between cities. I'll be looking forward to hearing from you.

Thank you very much in advance!!

Best regards,

Soojin

p.s Please refer to the attached file and homepage introducing our city.
<http://www.cans21.net/EN/Main/Main.asp>

Soojin Choi, Coordinator of international relations
 Seongnam City Hall
 Corporate support Dept.
 International trade & relations team
 3309 Taepyeong-dong Sujeong-gu
 Seongnam Gyeonggi-do 461-700, S.Korea
 Tel 82-31-729-2643

3/27/2008



Cell 82-16-397-0815

강력한 폴더 공유 기능과 무료 문자 메시지, 오프라인 쪽지 보내기 기능까지! MSN 메신저의 차세대 버전, Windows Live Messenger!