

SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

2006 Annual Report

The attached report is submitted pursuant to s. 320-47 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinance.



SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Purpose: (Per s. 320-47 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances)

The Sister Cities Committee is created to assist the City, through its Common Council, with the establishment and maintenance of sister city relationships in accordance with Sister Cities International regulations.

Members (for 2006)

CHAIR

Ald. Joe Davis., Sr.

MEMBERS

Dr. Vivian Chen

(representative of Commissioner of Health, Bevan Baker)

Daisy Cubias

(representative of Mayor Tom Barrett)

Alexander Durtka, Jr.

(representative of the International Institute of Wisconsin)

Charles Vang

(public member, appointed by Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr.)

Staff

Ms. Terry J. MacDonald, Staff Assistant

Ms. Charlotte Rodriguez, Council File Specialist

Committee meetings held in 2006:

March 23, 2006

May 25, 2006

July 21, 2006

September 21, 2006

November 15, 2006

History

At the February 22, 2005, Common Council meeting the Council passed File Number 041441 – A Substitute resolution authorizing application by the City of Milwaukee for membership in Sister Cities International.

At the September 27, 2005, Common Council meeting the Council passed File Number 050290 - A substitute ordinance creating a sister cities committee.

On March 23, 2006 the Sister Cities Committee held its first committee meeting.

Goals and Accomplishments in 2006

The Sister Cities Committee's first goal was to review and possible re-establish the current Sister Cities relationships in which the City of Milwaukee has been involved.

On March 23, 2006, the first meeting of the Sister Cities Committee, it was noted that the following cities were official sister cities with the City of Milwaukee:

- Galway, Ireland (File #010680)
- Mulhouse, France (File #880499)
- Nuevitas, Cuba (File #000432)
- Omsk, Siberia (File #920639)
- Parma, Italy (File #961901)
- Queenstown, South Africa (File #960630)
- Schwerin, Germany (File #970335)
- Ticuantepé, Nicaragua (File #870376)

There was also one file (041758) pending in the Judiciary and Legislation Committee, sponsored by Ald. Michael Murphy, to establish a sister city relationship with Ningbo, China.

By June of 2006 the Sister Cities Committee had determined that the following sister city relationships should be terminated due to lack of information on activities, reports, and documentation as required to meet the goals and guidelines set by Sister City International:

Ticuantepé, Nicaragua
Mulhouse, France
Omsk, Siberia

At the May 25, 2006 Sister Cities Committee, the local organization (Mr. Raul Galvan) for Nuevitas, Cuba appeared and gave a presentation.

The committee will continue to review the remaining sister cities relationships to see if they can be continued or if they will need to be terminated.

The following three new requests had been submitted in 2006 for Sister Cities relationships:

Common Council File #051713 - Resolution establishing a friendly exchange leading to a sister city relationship between the City of Milwaukee and Patiala, India. Sponsored by Ald. Zielinski and Ald. Puente.

At the July 21, 2006, Sister Cities Committee meeting, a presentation on the city of Patiala, India was given by Ald. Zielinski of the 14th Aldermanic District, Ald. Puente of the 9th Aldermanic District, Dr. Prem S. Sharma member of the Wisconsin Coalition of Asian Indian Org., Inc. and Mr. Balbir Singh with Punjabi Community Org. of WI.

Common Council File #060285 - Resolution establishing a friendly exchange leading to a sister city relationship between the city of Milwaukee and Carora, Venezuela. Sponsored by Ald. McGee.

At the July 21, 2006, Sister Cities Committee meeting, a presentation on the City of Carora, in the state of Lara, Venezuela relative to establishing a friendly exchange leading to a sister city relationship, given by Cororan Mayor Julio Chavez.

Under the newly established sister cities policy and procedures guidelines a file number is not given for a request until after the application has been received.

The third request in 2006 was for the establishment of a sister city

relationship with Morogoro, Tanzania.

At the November 16, 2006, Sister Cities Committee meeting, a presentation on the City of Morogoro, Tanzania was given by Mr. Ryan Skaife Director of the HOPE in Tanzania Foundation, Inc., Mr. Audifax A. Choma-Minister Plenipotentiary with the Tanzania Embassy in United States of America, Mr. Richard Kasesela from Dar es Salaam Tanzania representing the private business sector of Tanzania.

The committee's second goal was to review the existing policies and determine whether to amend, delete or recreate the policies (See APPENDIX A).

Throughout 2006, the committee had reviewed the policies that were in place at that time and after considerable review and discussion the committee established new policies and an application process. In October of 2006 it had created Chapter 335 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, which establishes the policies and procedures for the selection and maintenance of sister city relationships.

The committee's third goal was to create a request for sister city application form (See APPENDIX B).

Mr. Ronald Leonhardt, City Clerk prepared a draft application form and brought it to the Sister Cities Committee for review. The committee review and approved the application form at its November 16, 2006 meeting.

The applications process is explained in detail in Chapter 335-5 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances.