

SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

2012 Annual Report

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



SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

2012 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 2012)

CHAIR

Ald. Joe Davis., Sr.

MEMBERS

Leslie Silletti

(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.)

Eric Gass

(representative of the Health Commissioner)

Staff

Mr. Chris Lee, Staff Assistant

Amy Hefter, Legislative Liaison

Ms. Charlotte Rodriguez, Council File Specialist

Committee meetings held in 2012:

September 18, 2012

Accomplishments and Activities in 2012

On January 12, 2012, the 2011 annual report for Carora, Venezuela from, The Peace Education Project of Peace Action Wisconsin through its Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee, was received. The 2011 annual report is attached to this report as **Exhibit A**.

On January 18, 2012, the Common Council approved File Number 111227 an ordinance requiring that annual reports be submitted to the committee within 30 days following each anniversary of the date on which the mayor signed the resolution establishing a sister city relationship. The Common Council also adopted File Number 111185, a resolution terminating the sister city relationship with Manisa, Turkey. The committee had moved termination of the relationship at its March 24, 2011 meeting.

On February 1, 2012, the 2010 and 2011 annual reports for uMhlathuze, South Africa from the African American Chamber of Commerce, were received. The 2010 and 2011 annual reports are attached to this report as **Exhibit B**. No sister city annual report of activities was received for uMhlathuze, South Africa, for the year 2012. The report was due on May 17, 2012.

On February 15, 2012, Amy Hefter provided an updated table on the sister city relationships regarding their enabling file numbers, council final action date, mayoral signature date, relationship expiration date, agreement signature dates, and name of the local sponsoring organization. The table is attached to this report as **Exhibit C**.

On August 3, 2012, the sister city relationship with Morogoro, Tanzania expired. A renewal application was sent on December 19, 2011 to Hope in Tanzania Foundation, the local sponsoring institution but no renewal application was received. The renewal application filing was to be received by no later than February 3, 2012, six months before the expiration date. For the year 2012, no annual report was received regarding activities of the sister city relationship with Morogoro. The report was due on June 14, 2013.

On August 2, 2012, a renewal application with a cover letter for uMhlathuze, South Africa was sent to the African American Chamber of Commerce. The relationship with uMhlathuze, South Africa will expire on May 1, 2013, and the file by date is November 1, 2012. The cover letter is attached to this report as **Exhibit D**.

September 18, 2012, a Sister Cities Committee meeting was held. Representatives and partners of the Milwaukee Water Council appeared before the Committee to discuss their interest in establishing a sister relationship with Cochin (Kochi), India. Individuals who were present included: Shajan M. John of Mahattil International LLC, James Godsil and Jason Axe of Sweet Water Foundation, Christopher Vitrano of Nelson Schmidt Inc., and Dr. Sunni George of Mahattil Advisors Consultants and Educators. The Committee moved to invite a formal application be submitted for a sister city relationship with Cochin (Kochi), India. The Committee requested another letter be sent to request annual reports regarding Galway, Ireland. The chairman, Ald. Davis, recommended looking for

another potential local sponsor for Morogoro, Tanzania. Minutes of this meeting is included in this report as **Exhibit E**.

On September 20, 2012, an application and cover letter for a sister city relationship with Cochin (Kochi), India were sent to the Milwaukee Water Council. The cover letter is attached to this report as **Exhibit F**.

In October of 2012, City of uMhlathuze officials, Sister Cities International officials, and American delegates, including Ald. Joe Davis, attended a water project handover held at the Dube Traditional Authority grounds outside eSikhaleni. The project was spearheaded by Milwaukee Sister Cities International and was funded by a US non-profit organization at the Dube Traditional Authority grounds. The program benefited about 200 local families with clean water. An article regarding this event is included in this report as **Exhibit G**.

In uMhlathuze, another water project in Kwadube has helped 87 households with the installation of water meters. Photos regarding this project are included in this report as **Exhibit H**.

On October 29, 2012, the 2012 annual report for Galway, Ireland was received from Irish Festivals, Inc. The 2012 annual report is attached to this report as **Exhibit I**.

On November 2, 2012, a renewal application and cover letter were sent to Irish Festivals, Inc., regarding the renewal of the sister city relationship with Galway, Ireland. The relationship with Galway, Ireland, will expire on August 15, 2013, and the file by date is February 15, 2013. The cover letter is attached to this report as **Exhibit J**.

On November 7, 2012, the 2012 annual report for Carora, Venezuela was received from The Peace Education Project of Peace Action Wisconsin through its Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee. The 2012 annual report is attached to this report as **Exhibit K**.



January 9, 2012

Chris Lee
Staff Assistant to the Sister Cities Committee
200 E. Wells St. Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

2011 Sister Cities annual report

Dear Sister City Committee:

This summer, the official website of the Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee was launched (<http://mkecarorasc.wordpress.com>). This website currently serves to inform the public about the Sister Cities partnership as well as announce/review upcoming/past events, links to news/articles on Venezuela and the partnership, and also includes links to music from Lara State. Contact information for the committee is also provided (MkeCaroraSC@gmail.com).

Perhaps the most exciting development of 2011 for MCSCC is the Technological Exchange, made possible through partnership with the Venezuelan Consulate in Chicago and our allies in Madison. The goal of this initiative is to create mutually beneficial connections between cooperatives and small business in Carora and Milwaukee. Special thanks should be given to Ald. Joe Davis for his support and insight into this project. Jesus Espinoza of the Venezuelan Consulate in Chicago recently met with a large group of representatives of cooperatives in Carora, bringing back photos and news of very positive interactions with the Carorans. MCSCC currently has James Godsil of Sweetwater Organics confirmed to join this partnership and visit Carora in March, 2012. We, as well as the people of Carora, are excited for him to share his amazing energy and expertise in aquaponics and sustainable agriculture, as well as to continue working in this partnership after that visit. We look forward to expanding this project and believe that the sky is the limit with this exciting project of economic solidarity!

In our 2009 report, we mentioned our desire to facilitate some kind of language program, or language school. We are pleased to report that Jesus Rojas is still involved in this initiative, and a Milwaukee resident will be heading to Carora this spring to partake in Spanish language instruction with Jesus. This will give us a chance to run through how a program like this will work, create curriculum, and gather valuable feedback in moving forward, eventually offering the language program to the public.

Documentaries Desde el Sur is an annual, week-long film festival at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee that is now in its sixth year (2011). The festival offers a variety of films, many of which are focused directly on Venezuela and its culture, social system, etc. Attendance throughout the week has risen each year and usually reaches about 300 people, who leave with a greater grasp of the reality of life in our Sister City. Aside from being an enjoyable event,

MCSCC takes this opportunity to reach members of the community and update individuals on upcoming events and opportunities.

On May 2, 2011, MCSCC was also proud to host Dr. Mark Weisbrot, an economist and co-director of the Center for Economic Policy and Research who has served (and continues to serve) as an advisor to a number of Latin America nations, including Venezuela. Mr. Weisbrot gave the audience an expert analysis of the history and reality of Venezuela's politics, economics, and culture, and also shed light on many questions about daily life for Venezuelans, their government's foreign policy (including prospects for improving relations with the United States).

The Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee is proud of our mission to promoting peace, education, and people-to-people connections between Milwaukee and Carora. We are pleased with work we have done thus far, and look forward to working diligently on our upcoming projects. We thank the City of Milwaukee for its support of both our local organization and Sister Cities International.

Respectfully,

Volunteers of the Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee



2010-2011 REPORT

MILWAUKEE SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL

African American Chamber of Commerce

Cities of uMhlathuze and Milwaukee

INTRODUCTION

Sister Cities International is a citizen diplomacy network that seeks stronger economic and cultural ties at the municipal level between U. S. and international communities. It is focused on stimulating economic development and promoting cultural understanding. This is an important function to be achieved in today's competitive worldwide economy.

Milwaukee has five formal Sister Cities including the City of uMhlathuze, Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa. The agreement with Milwaukee was signed in May, 2008 by Mayor Barrett and Mayor Mngayi. Sister Cities International requires that there be local non-profit sponsors to carry out the programs that are agreed upon. Since we are emphasizing economic development our local sponsor is the African American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) partnered with the Zululand Chamber of Commerce and Industry in South Africa.

SISTER CITIES

The AACC has been the Sister City local sponsor since 2010. Our primary intermediary with our South African Sister City has been Alderman Joe Davis. He has been an outstanding representative for the City of Milwaukee and has become a great friend of uMhlathuze.

The Zululand Chamber of Commerce activities include sustainable development forums sponsored by local industries such as telecommunications, aluminum, paper, port authority, Richards Bay Minerals, and Richards Bay Coal Terminal. They also operate several entrepreneurship projects and some social service programs. Their primary fundraiser is an annual Zululand Expo which generates about 80% of their revenue. The Zululand Chamber has 1000 members, a staff of 43 and an annual budget of R5,832,000 (\$750,000 US). The AACC is planning an Expo for this September where there will be Sister Cities/uMhlathuze will be participating.

uMhlathuze is situated on the east coast of Africa on the Indian Ocean about an hour drive north of Durban. It is composed of five towns with Richards Bay being the largest and most industrial and with the deepest port in the southern hemisphere. City government is made up of 60 Councilors of which 10 are full time and serve on the Council Executive Committee. The

City has 1900 full time employees led by a Municipal Manager and staff. Within the City there are urban areas, rural areas, farms, nature reserves, and Tribal Authority areas. Population is 350,000; 66% of homes are brick; 64% home ownership and 18% renters; 92% of households have electricity; 92% have access to running water and 68% of households have piped water; 43% have phone service; of adults over 20 years old 30% have finished high school, 9% are college graduates and 18% have no formal education. All low income housing (single family) is provided by the government free of charge to residents. Unemployment is 36% using international standards which means the rate does not take into account informal economic activity like urban garden sales, tribal area production for their own use and arts and crafts sales that are not calculated as employed. 25% of City employment is in manufacturing. The South African Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate in 2011 was 3.1% which was down from an average of 3.29% over the previous 17 years.

SISTER CITY PROJECT

The Sister City sponsorship agreement includes the possibility to travel to South Africa on occasion and that opportunity did arise in December, 2010. We were informed by Alderman Davis that Sister Cities International had received a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and one of the projects targeted to be developed was in Richards Bay. The project that was to be funded had to focus on either health, water or wastewater. We were invited to meet with the Africa Sister Cities representative (who was from Kosovo), regional and City of uMhlathuze officials and Federal government representatives in Johannesburg to discuss local involvement and project evaluation approaches as well as other opportunities. We met from December 8-10 in Richards Bay interviewing and making site visits to potential projects. Presentations were made by both city officials and non-profit representatives. At the end of the evaluation process the team selected a water project that will provide drinking water to 600 people in an area that had no water within a reasonable distance—in fact it was a very long way.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Everywhere you go in South Africa there is talk and plans for sustainability and economic improvement—people are very future oriented. The sister city relationship is a very beneficial one for both Milwaukee and uMhlathuze/Richards Bay if we both learn from it.
- There are many business opportunities in Richards Bay and South Africa for American businesses. They are solvent, professional and interested in doing business with African Americans and other Americans.
- They are way behind in utilizing the latest technology in managing their water and wastewater systems. U. S. engineers and engineering firms can do very well. It may be

possible to even work out a financing/relocation arrangement with the government to establish offices there. A newspaper headline said “Richards Bay Beach Area Engulfed in a Layer of Filth”.

- Highways are very well constructed and they are in the early stages of installing intelligent highway systems. There are also opportunities here for transportation firms.
- As in the U. S. there is a need for skilled manufacturing workers. Another headline “Mercedes-Benz Picks South Africa” to manufacture the next generation of C-class cars which will be launched worldwide in 2014. Other plants to produce C-class cars are in U. S., China and Germany.
- Racial diversity is widespread but racism was not felt in the areas visited. While the City of uMhlathuze is 86% Black African, 9% White, 3% Indian/Asian, the town of Richards Bay is 40% Black African, 40% White and 20% Indian/Asian.
- We could learn from South Africa and Richards Bay how young people take school, work and their responsibilities seriously. Schools are all in uniforms—no baggy pants, very few overweight people, western clothing—very little African dress, all Black crews on highway construction work including foremen and engineers. Many government employees and private sector workers appear to be focused on serving the customers and displaying a positive and outgoing attitude.

SISTER CITY TRIP FOLLOW UP

After our return from South Africa the AACC held a Business Luncheon Briefing on January 28, 2011 to report to the Milwaukee community on the outcomes of the trip, recruit businesses to do business in South Africa and recruit firms for the next trip. Presenters were Wallace White, Chair of the AACC, Alderman Joe Davis, and Charles Manuel, Economic Counsel—South African Consulate. As a result of that meeting we know of one African American businessman that has gone to South Africa and is doing business there. That is George Stinson, President and CEO, General Converters and Assemblers, Racine, Wisconsin.

The AACC is in the planning stages for a Black Expo in Milwaukee on September 28th, 29th and 30th at the Frontier Airlines Center. We have already been in contact with Alderman Davis to make arrangements for Sister City and South African participation in the event.



Sister City Relationships

Sister City	File Number Establishing Relationship	File Number Renewing Relationship	Council Final Action	Mayor Signed	Signed Agreement	Relationship Expiration	Local Sponsoring Organization
Carora, Venezuela	080769		10/7/2008	10/9/2008	3/24/2009	3/24/2014	The Peace Education Project of Peace Action Wisconsin
Galway, Ireland*	010680		12/21/2001				
		071505	3/18/2008	3/27/2008	8/15/2008	8/15/2013	Irish Festivals, Inc.
Morogoro, Tanzania	070043		5/8/2007	5/15/2007	8/3/2007	8/3/2012	Hope in Tanzania Foundation
uMhlathuze, South Africa**	071584		4/9/2008	4/17/2008	5/1/2008	5/1/2013	African American Chamber of Commerce

*This relationship was established prior to the creation of Chapter 335 Sister Cities, which was adopted October 24, 2011 and became effective November 10, 2006.

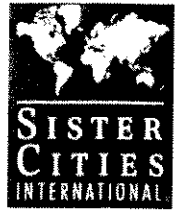
**Original sponsoring entity was Metro Milwaukee Association of Commerce.



Sister Cities Committee

CHAIR
Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.

MEMBERS
Eric Cass, Leslie Silletti, Al Durtka, Charles Vang



City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53202 | (414) 286-2221 | Fax (414) 286-3456 | www.milwaukee.gov/sistercities

August 1, 2012

Wallace White, Director
African American Chamber of Commerce
Of Greater Milwaukee
6203 W. Capitol Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53216

Wallace White, Principal
W2EXCEL, LLC
P.O. Box 240317
Milwaukee, WI 53223

Dear Mr. Wallace:

This is notification that the sister city relationship with the City of Milwaukee and uMhlathuze, South Africa will expire on May 1, 2013. Per section 335-7 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, no later than 6 months prior to the expiration of a sister city relationship, the sponsoring entity may submit a renewal application to the city clerk on a form prepared by the committee. The Sister Cities Committee requests that you submit a formal renewal application, a copy of which is enclosed, by November 1, 2012.

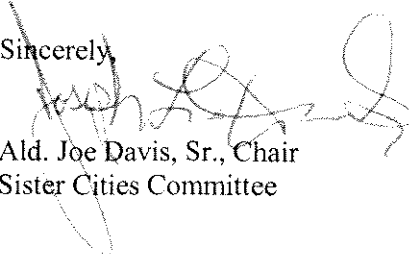
Please note that in addition to some basic information, the renewal application requests detailed attachments regarding the sister city, your organization, and the organization in the sister city that will support this relationship. A thorough response to all questions will be most appreciated and will strengthen your renewal application.

The Sister Cities Committee will schedule a formal hearing on your renewal application, and you will be notified to attend. If the Committee recommends approval of the renewal application, it will be forwarded to the Common Council's Community and Economic Development Committee and then to the full Council.

We look forward to further exploring this sister city relationship with you. The City of Milwaukee is a member of Sister Cities International and adheres to its policies and procedures in reviewing possible relationships. We believe a limited number of such relationships are beneficial to cultural, economic, and educational growth and development for all involved.

If you have any questions regarding the procedures to be followed, please contact the Staff Assistant to the Committee, Chris Lee, at 414-286-2232, or clee@milwaukee.gov. Your renewal application should be submitted to Mr. Lee at the address on this letterhead.

Sincerely,


Ald. Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Sister Cities Committee



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

ALDERMAN JOE DAVIS, SR., CHAIR
Al Durka, Eric Gass, Leslie Silletti, and Charles Vang
Staff Assistant, Chris Lee, 286-2232, Fax: 286-3456,
clee@milwaukee.gov
Legislative Liaison: Amy Hefter, 286-2290,
ahefte@milwaukee.gov

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

2:30 PM

Room 301-B, Third Floor, City Hall

Meeting convened at 2:32 p.m.

Present 1 - Davis

Excused 1 - Gass

Individuals also present:

Amy Hefter, Legislative Reference Bureau

William Malone, Department of City Development

1. Roll Call.

The roll was called.

2. Approval of the Previous Minutes of December 14, 2011.

Mr. Durka moved approval, seconded by Mr. Vang, of the minutes of December 14, 2011. There were no objections.

3. Presentation on the City of Kochi, India Relative to Establishing a Friendly Exchange Leading to a Sister City Relationship.

Individuals appearing:

Shajan John, Mahattil International LLC

James Godsil, Sweet Water Foundation

Christopher Vacherno, Nelson Schmidt Inc. and Water Council representative

Dr. Sunni George, Mahattil Advisors Consultants and Educators

Jason Axe, Sweet Water Foundation Intern

Mr. John gave introductory remarks and introduced Dr. George, Mr. Vitrano, and Mr. Godsil.

Mr. John gave an overview on his company, Mahattil International LLC. Founded in 1992, it is a global business development firm that globally connects institutions and organizations that want to collaborate and partner together. One example is the creation of an aquaponics site in India.

Mr. John said that one important concept in his company is called Growing Networks,

which is an idea to develop opportunities for young people to become global leaders through their involvement in communities around the world, engagement in meaningful activities, and establishment of lifelong relationships after graduation from college. An example of this concept was the creation of an aquaponics site in India that involved the University of Wisconsin – Madison and Sweet Water Foundation in Milwaukee.

Mr. John said that the interest in a sister city relationship with Kochi, India is for a partnership between the Milwaukee Water Council and the Center for Heritage and Environment Development in the City of Kochi. The relationship is to focus on water management. Mayor Tom Barrett received a letter from the Mayor of Kochi, India and a book last week. Dr. George, Dean Amhaus from the Milwaukee Water Council, and he had met with Mayor Barrett.

Mr. John proceeded to give a presentation on the City of Kochi, India. Kochi is also known as Cochin. The city was a gateway for European explorers into India in the recent past. Kochi is in the state of Kerala. Its coast was controlled by Arabs in the past. Local kings ruled the state up until the time of independence in 1947. Kochi is a growing port city, has the first transshipment port for container and cargo transportation by ships in the country, is the site of the headquarters of the southern naval command of India, has a large shipyard for the manufacturing of ships, and is a destination for health care needs and tourism for people in the region and the Middle East. The city has a dense population of 600,000, similar to Milwaukee. It has a lake that is not fresh and considered slime. There is significant marine activity. It is unique in having the first private airport in India. Many information and technology firms have expanded their sites in Kochi. There is a diverse community due to Arabs, European explorers, and the navy. The makeup of the city is 30% Muslim, 30% Christian, and 30% Hindu. Kerala has 100% literacy among its people.

Mr. John further commented on the proposal for a sister city relationship. There will be a consortium of organizations working from both ends, and the local lead sponsor is the Milwaukee Water Council. Primary initiatives are to leverage the strength of water technology in Milwaukee and Kochi's heritage and tourism. Both cities would benefit with visitors and delegations for this purpose. Both sponsors have the involvement of both mayors. The desired impacts, economic in nature, are for global market access, workforce development, job creation, and tourist exchange. Academic collaboration is necessary and important with the collaboration of students from both ends to ultimately lead to innovation, development, resolutions, new products and services, and exchange of scholars. Community engagement is important and is provided through international service learning internships and tourist exchange.

Dr. George provided comments. Both cities are similar with its connection to water. Kochi is facing water related problems dealing with quality and waste management. There is a desire to find a solution. There is an immense possibility for student and tourist exchanges.

Mr. Vitrano said that this relationship requires a diverse set of audience groups, commitment, communication, understanding of the roles of public and private sectors, and for public acceptance.

Mr. Godsil provided comments. There was a six city tour to spread information about Milwaukee's aquaponics innovation, which he was involved with in June 2011. Aquaponics has been publicized nationally through TV and radio outlets. He has a passion to increase global bioculture.

Ald. Davis introduced Ms. Hefter and Mr. Malone. Ms. Hefter is a research analyst and pulls data together, and Mr. Malone is involved in international relations and trade. Mr. Malone has hosted several youth delegations coming from different areas of the world.

Mr. Durtka said that in addition to the focus on economics, the relationship must have a culture aspect beyond tourism for long term sustainability. There should be real exchanges that take place, such as arts and literature.

Ald. Davis said that he was excited about the possibilities of student exchange, philanthropic dollars, and interaction of small businesses. He added that the city cannot be micromanagers but instead, let the relationship flourish.

Mr. Durtka moved approval, seconded by Mr. Vang, to extend a formal application to be made for a sister city relationship between the City of Milwaukee and Kochi, India. There were no objections.

Ald. Davis said that the application should be filed within 90 days.

Mr. Hefter said that the application process, once completed, involves another committee meeting for approval, drafting of a resolution, and Common Council approval. An official relationship is for five years and requires the local sponsor to provide annual reports of activities.

Ald. Davis said that once a relationship is established, there should be a ceremony involving the mayors from both cities.

Ald. Davis said that benefits of a formal relationship are: full membership of both cities to Sister Cities International, access to state departments, listing in the Sister Cities International annual book, and opportunities to attend regional and national conferences of Sister Cities International.

Mr. Durtka added that a formal relationship gives access to occasional grants that are available, such as the Gates Foundation grant.

Mr. John provided letters, addressed to the Milwaukee Water Council and the Mayor's office, from the mayor of Kochi to Mr. Lee for the record.

4. Discussion, Review, and Approval of 2011 Annual Reports.

Mr. Durtka moved approval and acceptance, seconded by Mr. Vang, of the sister city annual reports of Carora, Venezuela and Umathluze, South Africa. There were no objections and no further discussion.

5. Discussion on the Sister City Relationship with Morogoro, Tanzania.

Ald. Davis said that since the ceremony and donation of a fire truck to Morogoro, there have not been any correspondences received documenting the activities of the relationship. It is possible to terminate the relationship, but outreach should be done to find another principal.

6. New Business for Future Discussions.

Mr. Durtka questioned the status of the annual report for Galway, Ireland?

Mr. Lee responded that correspondence requesting for an annual report submittal has been sent to Irish Fest, the local sponsor for the relationship with Galway. No annual report was received.

Mr. Durtka said that there is a new director, Patrick Boyle, at Irish Fest.

Ald. Davis requested Mr. Lee to send another notification to the new director at Irish Fest requesting for an annual report.

Mr. Durtka inquired as the developments for a sister city relationship with Turkey?

Ald. Davis said that an official application has not been received. If there is interest in the future, another presentation at a meeting would be required again before the committee would extend a formal application to be made.

7. Set Next Meeting Date and Time.

No meeting date and time was set.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Chris Lee, Staff Assistant



Sister Cities Committee

CHAIR
Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.

MEMBERS
Eric Gass, Leslie Silletti, Al Durtka, Charles Vang



City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53202 | (414) 286-2221 | Fax (414) 286-3456 | www.milwaukee.gov/sistercities

September 20, 2012

Milwaukee Water Council
710 N. Plankinton Ave., Suite 340
Milwaukee, WI 53203

To Whom It May Concern:

Congratulations! The Sister Cities Committee has reviewed your proposal for establishing a sister city relationship with the City of Milwaukee and Cochin (Kochi), India and now requests that you submit a formal application, a copy of which is enclosed.

Please note that in addition to some basic information, the application requests detailed attachments regarding the proposed sister city, your organization and the organization in the sister city that will support this relationship. A thorough response to all questions will be most appreciated and will strengthen your application.

The Sister Cities Committee will schedule a formal hearing on your application and you will be notified to attend. If the Committee recommends approval of the application, it will be forwarded to the Common Council's Community and Economic Development Committee and then to the full Council.

We look forward to further exploring this sister city relationship with you. The City of Milwaukee is a member of Sister Cities International and adheres to its policies and procedures in reviewing possible relationships. We believe a limited number of such relationships are beneficial to cultural, economic and educational growth and development for all involved.

If you have any questions regarding the procedures to be followed, please contact the Staff Assistant to the Committee, Mr. Chris Lee, at 414-286-2232, or clee@milwaukee.gov. Your application should be submitted to Mr. Lee at the address on this letterhead.

Sincerely,

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Sister Cities Committee

Enclosure

Cc: Shajan M. John, Mahattil International LLC
James Godsil, Sweet Water Foundation
Christopher Vitrano, Nelson Schmidt Inc.



Eskom's shock tariff proposal sends local businesses reeling

Mia Moorcroft

LOCAL businesses may have to pay the high price of closing shop if faced with the recently proposed electricity price hikes.

Eskom said on Monday it submitted a third multi-year electricity tariff hike application for 16% each year for the next five years to the National Energy Regulator (Nersa), starting April 2013 to end-March 2018.

Once one of the world's lowest-cost electricity producers, Eskom has been granted annual increases of 25% in recent years.

Since 2008, the average selling price for

electricity increased from 19.4c a unit to 50.3c.

However, many local business owners consider Eskom's latest hike to be taking it one step too far.

According to Zululand Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ZCCI) Executive Chamber Manager, Charmayne Pountney, the government's messages on unemployment together with Eskom's high demands make for a contradictory and unrealistic request:

'The Zululand Chamber of Commerce & Industry is irate over the new proposed tariff increase of 16% annually for the next 5

years.

'On one hand, the private sector are being hammered with increases in costs such as electricity, fuel and the pressure of wage demands, coupled with the impact of electricity outages and debilitating industrial action which negatively affect production.

'On the other hand, the private sector is being challenged to create jobs.

'This is a direct contradiction in terms and the cost to business, such as these electricity price hikes will lead to the exact opposite – businesses will downscale or close and employees will join the unemployed ranks.

'The ZCCI will, together with chambers nationally, urge Eskom to 'sharpen their pencil' and invoke necessary cost-cutting measures and more stringent controls where power is being 'stolen', which will result in a more realistic tariff in order that business can afford to create jobs and function productively and sustainably.' According to KZN Provincial Treasuries data, KZN rates second-highest in electricity consumption following Gauteng, suggesting the province stands to experience a significant climb in unemployment should businesses shut doors as a direct result of the proposed tariff increases.

American Sister Cities help local people with water

CROWDS of local people attended the handover of a major water project funded by a US non-profit organisation at the Dube Traditional Authority grounds outside eSikhaleni on Wednesday.

'Schoolchildren will now be able to focus on their schoolwork instead of coming back from school to be faced with the daunting task of fetching water.

This is all thanks to Sister Cities International,' said Nonhlanhla Qhoboshiyane,

head at the KZN Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

'This is a sure way to improve the quality of our people's lives,' she said.

The project will benefit about 200 local families, with clean water being piped right into their yards.

May Kane, CEO of the Milwaukee Sister Cities International, which has spearheaded the project, said, 'This organisation was started in 1956 by the then

president of America and it grew until it had about 600 member cities worldwide for global connections in addressing world problems, and today we are proud to call ourselves Sisters with the City of uMhlathuze.'

US Consul General Taylor Ruggles thanked Magugu Davis, Principal Chairperson of US Sister Cities International, and her husband Sir Joe Davis for bringing him on board this programme.



American delegates and City of uMhlathuze officials at the water project handover held at the Dube Traditional Authority grounds outside eSikhaleni were: members of the ANC US Centenary Committee Stan Willis and Vicky Casanova, uMhlathuze Deputy Mayor Vera Gumbi, uThungulu Deputy Mayor Thulani Mashaba, Principal Chairperson of US Sister Cities International Magugu Davis, uMhlathuze Municipality Executive Committee member Louis Fourie (behind Davis), President of Sister Cities International Mary Kane, uMhlathuze Mayor EF Mbatha, Chairman of Sister Cities Committee Sir Joe Davis and US Consul General Taylor Ruggles

ADVERTORIAL

CELEBRATING BUSINESS & SERVICE EXCELLENCE

The Zululand Chamber of Commerce & Industry Annual Business Excellence Awards takes place on the 15th November 2012 and, once again, a record number of nominations have been received. This year, the Umfolozi Casino, Resort and Conference Centre will be the stage for this, the most prestigious business event in Zululand.

Nominations

Contested over 12 categories

which evaluate both business and service excellence, the event provides a platform for Private, Public and the Civil Society to showcase the work being done in the uThungulu, Zululand and uMkhanyakude Districts. Entities are not expected to box above their weight as the business categories provide for Emerging, Small, Medium and Corporate businesses to be judged separately.

Tourism Award

This year, the Tourism sector has the opportunity to compete for the newly added Tourism Award. The Chamber is active in an area which has an abundant Tourism offering and the jewel in the Tourism crown of KwaZulu-Natal. The Award will highlight product owners / service providers to the industry, including Tour operators, Accommodation, Guides and Destinations. Despite this being the first

Business Excellence Award of its kind, nominations across all focus areas have been received.

Event Guest Speaker

The newly elected President of the South African Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Clive Manci is the guest of honour for the evening. Immediate Past President of the Durban Chamber, Clive cuts a dapper figure on the podium, the youngest President of both the

Durban and South African Chambers. His academic record includes qualifications from Harvard and London School of Business and his successful business career and professional engagement have elucidated his leadership abilities. Clive is vociferous regarding the need for business to unite which will echo in his presentation at the event.

Corporate tables

Corporate tables, which

provide marketing opportunities for local businesses and organisations, are available at R5000 per table (10 people).

Tickets

A limited number of tickets are available. The cost of the tickets for members has been reduced to R345pp and non-members are R375 pp. Booking is essential, please see the ad below.

ADVERTORIAL

Zululand Chamber of Commerce & Industry
2012 Business Excellence Awards

Zululand Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Annual Business Excellence Awards

GUEST SPEAKER
 Clive Manci
 President : SACCI
 Vice-President : Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)
 Former President : Durban Chamber of Commerce & Industry
 Former Chairman : Enterprise iLembe

Clive Manci, the newly elected President of the South African Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Immediate Past President of the Durban Chamber is a dynamic young businessman, highly qualified with qualifications from Harvard and the London School of Business. Through his extensive experience in developing and growing successful business ventures, his intrinsic awareness of the challenges of operating in the private sector are addressed through his refreshing approach & valuable insight.

Time : 18H00 Date : 15th November 2012
Venue : Umfolozi Hotel Casino & Convention Centre, Empangeni
Dress Code : Formal
 Table Wine & Fruit Juice provided : Cash Bar

Ticket Prices : R345 p/p Members R375 p/p Non Members
 Contact : Monique Grobler on 0357971800 or moniquec@zcci.co.za

Logos: ZULULAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, UMFOLOZI HOTEL CASINO CONVENTION RESORT, UTHUNGULU, MHLATHUZE WATERMANZI, Events By Design, FOSKOR, seda SMALL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, OLD MUTUAL, MGE, TRONOX, TRANSNET, METRO GROUP, FNB First National Bank

ZR134106-12S©



KWADUBE WATER PROJECT

The project is progressing at reasonable pace but not as fast as one would like it to be. Sofar we have installed 87 water meters to 87 households and we have employed 25 males and 20 females foer excavation, pipelaying and backfilling. Two skilled males are connencting water pipes into existing pipelines.

Initially we experienced theft on the material but the contractor requested that to our facilities at the Water Works since then we havent experienced any theft. The slow pace of paying payment Certificates from the Foundation is really having an impact on the slow pace of the contractor , since the contractor is an emerging one which needs assistance financially and technical skills.



Water meter is installed ne xt to the boundary fence of the household



Women clearing the pipeline route where the water pipeline will be installed



The trench has been dug using a labour intensive methods



Women backfilling the trench by hands using a spade



Milwaukee Irish Fest

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

2012 OCT 29 AM 9: 56

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

October 25, 2012

Mr. Chris Lee
200 E. Wells Street
Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: Galway, Ireland Sister City Annual Report

Dear Mr. Lee,

On behalf of Milwaukee Irish Fest and the Board of Directors, we respectfully encourage the City of Milwaukee to maintain the sister city relationship with Galway, Ireland. Our primary contact with Galway has been Keith Finnegan of Galway Bay Radio. Our Sister City Relationship has been growing for nearly 15 years. In fact, each year, the City of Galway sends a 10-15 person delegation to not only Milwaukee Irish Fest, but to meet with area Business leaders and elected officials. Alderman Michael Murphy has been instrumental in growing this relationship. Each year, in addition to a welcome reception, the Alderman and Mayor often have the opportunity to meet with their representatives outside of the festival. In fact this year, Alderman Murphy included representatives from Milwaukee Lutheran College at the reception in City Hall. Milwaukee Irish Fest connected Keith Finnegan with the President of the College in order to prepare for a visit the College's Choir is making next spring.

Irish Fest representatives have visited Galway countless times over the years and we have visited with area elected officials, representatives from tourism and area businesses. In fact, a group from Irish Fest visited representatives from Galway in May, 2012, and as a result, Galway sent two different businesses to the festival this year. We plan a return visit in 2013 to strengthen those new relationships.


The partnership, between Galway and Milwaukee Irish Fest has allowed us to attract many government leaders, vendors, and guests from Galway and other places in Ireland to come to Milwaukee to sell their tourist packages, goods and services. The City of Milwaukee clearly benefits from this by having our Galway guests stay in Milwaukee, visit our many attractions and spend their tourist dollars right here in the city.

In a growing global economy, there are many opportunities for Milwaukee and Galway to support each other as our partnership continues to grow and we are grateful for the support of the City of Milwaukee and Alderman Murphy, Alderman Donovan and Mayor Barrett.

Milwaukee Irish Fest

Milwaukee Irish Fest is a year round organization. We are known in the city for our annual festival; in 2013 we will be celebrating our 33rd anniversary. In addition to the festival, we have many beneficial ties with Ireland; North and South. We would be happy to provide assistance to anyone traveling to Ireland and would be happy to make introductions for business leaders and elected officials as well. Please keep us in mind as opportunities present themselves. Thank you for maintaining this exciting international program. If we can help provide any additional leadership to develop this partnership please let us know.

Sincerely,



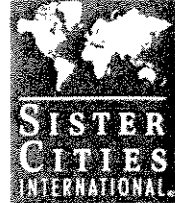
Donna Brady
President of Milwaukee Irish Fest



Sister Cities Committee

CHAIR
Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.

MEMBERS
Eric Gass, Leslie Silletti, Al Durtka, Charles Vang



City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53202 | (414) 286-2221 | Fax (414) 286-3456 | www.milwaukee.gov/sistercities

November 2, 2012

Milwaukee Irish Festivals, Inc.
Attn: Donna Brady and Patrick Boyle
1532 Wauwatosa Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53213

Dear Ms. Brady and Mr. Boyle:

This is notification that the sister city relationship with the City of Milwaukee and Galway, Ireland will expire on **August 15, 2013**. Per section 335-7 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, no later than **6 months** prior to the expiration of a sister city relationship, the sponsoring entity may submit a renewal application to the city clerk on a form prepared by the committee. The Sister Cities Committee requests that you submit a formal renewal application, a copy of which is enclosed, by **February 15, 2013**.

Please note that in addition to some basic information, the renewal application requests detailed attachments regarding the sister city, your organization, and the organization in the sister city that will support this relationship. A thorough response to all questions will be most appreciated and will strengthen your renewal application.

The Sister Cities Committee will schedule a formal hearing on your renewal application, and you will be notified to attend. If the Committee recommends approval of the renewal application, it will be forwarded to the Common Council's Community and Economic Development Committee and then to the full Council.

We look forward to further exploring this sister city relationship with you. The City of Milwaukee is a member of Sister Cities International and adheres to its policies and procedures in reviewing possible relationships. We believe a limited number of such relationships are beneficial to cultural, economic, and educational growth and development for all involved.

If you have any questions regarding the procedures to be followed, please contact the Staff Assistant to the Committee, Chris Lee, at 414-286-2232, or cleec@milwaukee.gov. Your renewal application should be submitted to Mr. Lee at the address on this letterhead.

Sincerely,



Ald. Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Sister Cities Committee

Enclosure



November 2, 2012

Chris Lee
Staff Assistant to the Sister Cities Committee
200 E. Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

2012 Sister Cities annual report

Dear Sister City Committee:

This year, the Milwaukee Carora Sister Cities Committee (MCSCC) has been actively engaged in the promotion of our Sister City relationship. MCSCC has also continued in educating the public about this special relationship and has worked to maintain ties with Caroran friends and supporters.

Between April 21 and 28, we held our seventh annual, week-long film festival at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, "Documentaries Desde el Sur." The festival offers a variety of films, many of which are focused directly on Venezuela and its culture, social system, etc. Attendance throughout the week has risen each year and usually reaches about 350 people, who leave with a greater grasp of the reality of life in our Sister City. Aside from being an enjoyable event, MCSCC takes this opportunity to reach members of the community and update individuals on upcoming events and opportunities. This year's festival also included a special visit from Emmy-award winning director, Saul Landau.

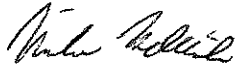
On October 7, 2012, Erik Sperling, co-founder of Milwaukee's Sister City relationship with Carora, was invited by Venezuela's National Electoral Council to be an international observer during Venezuela's presidential election. Erik, a current law student at Georgetown University, was also able to visit Carora on that trip, maintaining ties with Carorans who are interested in and have been supportive of the Sister City relationship.

Also on October 7, 2012, and in conjunction with Erik's work on the ground in Venezuela, MCSCC hosted a Venezuelan election viewing party, complete with Venezuelan food, Venezuelan television via the internet, and Skype video calls with Caroran friends. Folks who had visited Carora also shared their impressions and experiences. This was very enjoyable, and we look forward to maintaining close relations with Caroran folks through Skype in the future.

On November 15, author Steve Brouwer will visit Milwaukee to speak on his latest book, Revolutionary Doctors: How Venezuela and Cuba are Changing the World's Conception of Health Care. Mr. Brouwer has visited Carora, and lived 45 minutes away from Carora (in Dane County's Sister City of Sanare). We look forward to educating the public about the extensive and unique gains in medicine and medical care that Carora and Sanare have undertaken. As an organization, we also look forward to exploring the possibilities of future collaborations between Milwaukee, Carora, and Sanare, specifically in the realm of promoting medical student visits and tours of the medical programs there.

On behalf of the Milwaukee Carora Sister Cities Committee, I thank the City of Milwaukee for its continued support of our Sister City relationship with Carora. This relationship has provided the opportunity for meaningful (and continuing) people-to-people relationship building, and all the benefit that accompanies such interaction, cooperation, and education.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Helbick".

Mike Helbick

President, Milwaukee Carora Sister Cities Committee

Phone: 414-241-1823

Email: MikeHelbick@gmail.com