

Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission Minutes

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

7:00 p.m. Village Chambers

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

Meeting called to order at 7:14 p.m.

- Recognize Commission members present: Chairman/Commissioner Patrick Rea; Secretary/Commissioner Roxane Tyssen; Commissioners: Lucas Hawley, Sarah Krause, Jim Muller, George Rohde, Michele Rons, and Rob Zimmer; Associate Commissioners: Julie and Kurt Dekker
- Staff Liaison: David Niemeyer
- Absent: Commissioners Marilyn Bill

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes:

- Motion to approve August 19, 2020 Sister Cities Commission Meeting Minutes, George Rohde made the motion to pass the minutes as presented, Rob Zimmer seconded, all in favor, Motion to approve August 19, 2020 minutes passed.
- Motion to approve September 16, 2020 Sister Cities Commission Meeting Minutes, George Rohde made the motion to pass the minutes as presented, George Rohde made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Jim Muller seconded, all in favor. Motion to approve September 16, 2020 minutes passed.

Sister City Updates:

Büdingen, Germany Update:

- Overall things are still open but they are also seeing spikes in confirmed cases of COVID. They have not closed down again at this point that we are aware of.
- Büdingen Bench Project - There are budgetary and COVID concerns that have thrown a hiccup into the program. They have not been able to meet but are planning on a discussion on their end. We should have an update by our next meeting.
- We should start looking at dates to schedule a video call with Büdingen soon. Since there will likely not be a gathering on their side, we need to look at other virtual options.

Mallow, Ireland Update:

- There is no update on Mallow, Jim has not heard from anyone on their end. We do know they are also experiencing high cases of COVID.
- Roxane reached out to Pat Carr and updated him on our lack of communication with them right now. He said he would go through his contacts and let us know who we should be contacting.
- We still need to go forward with some kind of recognition for the upcoming 20th sister cities anniversary which will be in May of 2021.

Nowy Sącz, Poland:

- A reporter from Nowy Sącz has reached out with questions of how we are handling the COVID epidemic here.
- Copies of the resolution were passed out to everyone for approval to send to the Village Board for approval. This resolution would make Nowy Sącz an official sister city of the Village of Tinley Park. It is expected that the board will approve the resolution.
- Once travel becomes possible, we can plan to visit accordingly.

Prospective Sister Cities:

Jordan:

- Chairman Patrick Rea updated the Commission on Jordan and Aqaba. We are hoping to be able to travel to the region sometime in the first half of 2021.

Canada:

- Roxane Tyssen stated that she has not heard from Cobourg after reaching out several times.
- Dave Niemeyer offered to reach out to Canadian members of the city managers group he belongs to.

New and Upcoming Business:

- There will not be a holiday market. There will be a 5-day tree lighting festival that begins on December 2nd.
- There will not be a commissioner holiday gathering with the Village, so there will not be a conflict with our December meeting.

Old Business:

- None.

Public comments:

- None.

Adjourned:

- Roxane Tyssen motioned to adjourn, Pat Rea seconded, all were in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.