

Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission Minutes

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

7:00 p.m. Village Chambers

The March 17, 2021 meeting was held via conf. call and in-person

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

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

Approval of Minutes:

- Approval of February 17, 2021 Sister Cities Commission Meeting Minutes: George Rohde made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Marilyn Bill seconded; All in favor. Motion to approve February 17, 2021 minutes passed.

Sister City Updates:

Büdingen, Germany Update:

- The Commission discussed the flooding in Büdingen.
 - Dave Niemeyer stated that to date, \$1,830 has been donated from the public.
 - Due to the past generosity of Büdingen to the citizens of Tinley Park, the Village is looking at additional options for raising funds.
 - Clean up and restorations are still being done. This process will take considerable time due to the age of many of the buildings that were damaged, special care needs to be taken when cleaning and restoring most of the structures that were damaged.
- Elections for council members had just happened; we are unsure if there was a mayoral election as well.
- Travel to Germany is still under tight restrictions; no commissioners are planning (or will be able) to travel there in the immediate future. Lucas Hawley and Rob Zimmer have expressed interest in returning there once travel is permissible.

Mallow, Ireland Update:

- The Commission agreed to go forward with a resolution from the Village Board to acknowledge the anniversary. A higher end 'swag' bag will be sent with a framed copy of the resolution to the government offices in Mallow.

Nowy Sącz, Poland:

- Images of the crest of Nowy Sącz and an image of the Polish flag were sent to Sue Paul in Marketing so that we can order the sign that will be mounted at the 183rd and Oak Park Avenue gateway; this should be ready by next months' meeting.

Prospective Sister Cities:

Jordan:

- Until travel restrictions ease, we are on hold for formal declarations but the Commission is committed to going forward with establishing an official sister cities relationship with Aqaba.

Canada:

- Nothing to report. The Commission has an interest with a city in Canada.

New and Upcoming Business:

- Chairman Rea has been approached about the possibility of a sister city in Bier Zeit, Palestine.
 - Tinley Park resident, Mr. Taysir Abusumayah has approached the Village and Chairman about the possibility of a sister cities relationship with Bier Zeit in Palestine.
 - He will be invited to participate at the next meeting as he was unable to join the Commission tonight.
- Chairman Rea instructed the Commissioners to let him know if they wish to be reappointed as commissioners to the Commission. He would like everyone to do this outside of tonight's meeting.
- Public service comments were made regarding COVID vaccinations.
- The next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business:

- None.

Public comments:

- None.

Adjourned:

- George Rohdes motioned to adjourn, Roxane Tyssen seconded, all were in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.