

# Tinley Park Sister Cities Commission

## Minutes

### September 21, 2022

The September 21, 2022 meeting was held in the Kallsen Center and called to order at 7:08 p.m.

#### **Roll Call:**

- Recognize Commission members present: Chairman/Commissioner Patrick Rea; Secretary/Commissioner Roxane Tyssen; Commissioners: Vice Chair/Commissioner Lucas Hawley, Jim Muller, Michele Rons, and Mike Roche
- Staff Liaison: N/A
- Absent: Chairman/Commissioner Patrick Rea; Commissioners: David Niemeyer, Sarah Krause, George Rohde;; Trustee Liaison: William Brady
- Associate Commissioner: None

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

The August 17, 2022, minutes were presented for approval. Commissioner Muller made a motion to approve the minutes, Michele Rons seconded. All were in favor, motion passed. August minutes were passed.

#### **Sister City Updates:**

##### Büdingen, Germany Update:

- Roxane received the contact list from artists who have constructed benches in the past. Letters were sent in email and hard copy form. We had one artist reach out and Roxane has met with him. He has started to think about some of his ideas for what he can create that can be re-created and assembled there.
  - He has been provided with contact information to those in Budingen who are heading the project.
- Dates for a Zoom call were discussed. The Commission was reminded that they can call in remotely (their home, or from their phone).
- Some of our friends there were hoping to come to Tinley Park this year but due to work obligations they are postponing it until 2032.
- Commissioner Hawley updated us on the German student exchange. Andrew will be participating in a second exchange this year; the German students from Wolfgang-Ernst Gymnasium will be coming to Tinley Park in October (Andrew students traveled there in May 2022).
  - We do not have details yet or what assistance she may need but we have opened the door that we will be able to assist and are waiting to hear from her.
  - The Commission would like to invite them to our October meeting if they will be here at that time.
  - Additional details of the exchange were discussed.

##### Mallow, Ireland Update:

- There is no update from Mallow.

- The Village Manager was recently in Ireland and Pat Rea will reach out to him to see if he has spoken to anyone from Mallow.

#### Nowy Sącz, Poland:

- We have no updates on Poland.
- Roxane will reach out to a contact that currently residing in Poland near Nowy Sącz.

#### **Prospective Sister Cities:**

##### Jordan, Aqaba:

- Roxane shared an email communication from Aqaba. They are eager to begin the process of becoming an official Sister City.
  - A draft response to their email was handed out for the Commission's approval to send.

##### Municipality of Ghadamis, Libya:

- The call was on August 31, 2002. The topic was Women in Government, Tinley Park had several department heads along with staff participating on our end.

##### Additional Potential Sister Cities

- No new additional potential sister cities were mentioned.

#### **Old Business:**

- Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce's Oktoberfest 2022 (September 16-18, 2022) - The Commission discussed why we did not participate in the event this year.

#### **New and Upcoming Business:**

- Sister Cities Commissioners Christmas party was discussed. The group will get together sometime before Christmas for the holidays. We will determine a date at our next meeting.
- Commissioner positions were mentioned.
- Events at other organizations were reviewed. The American Legion has a dinner night coming up on Friday. Polish food will be served and they will have a polka band.

#### **Public comments/Announcements:**

- Guest Samhar Hoz was in attendance at this meeting. She is interested in discussing becoming a member of the commission. She is a civil structural engineer and now lives in Tinley Park. She is also an artist and would like to discuss the bench project.

#### **Adjourned:**

Lucas Hawley made a motion to adjourn, Michelle Rons seconded, all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.