

03-09-21 Sister Cities Commission Minutes

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6:30 PM
April 13, 2021

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES**COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Alternate Meeting Format: On March 6, 2020 the Mayor declared a civil emergency due to the outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 24, 2020 the Governor issued Proclamation 20-28 relating to the COVID-19 emergency and open public meetings. The proclamation has been extended. Due to these factors, the meeting was held using a remote meeting platform

Commissioners:

Stephanie Angula
Shari Gehrke
Robin Kelley
Ryan Opitz
Nilendu Pal (*Unexcused Absence*)
Charlee Roundhill

Youth Board Representatives:

Nathan Beh

Administrative Staff:

Jillian Decoteau, Admin Specialist

CALL TO ORDER

- a) The meeting was called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes of March 9, 2021

The minutes were APPROVED as presented by unanimous consent.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS – None.

REGULAR BUSINESS

- a) **Work Group A – Re-engage and Virtual**
Presented by: Commissioner Gehrke
- b) **Work Group B – Education, Pen Pals and Potential Community Partnership**
Presented by: Commissioner Angula
- c) **2021 Work Plan and Next Steps**
Discussion Outcomes - Immediate Next Steps:
1. Coffee with the Commission Zoom events
 - o First call will be separate for each city; Zoom as the platform; set meeting time limit to less than 1 hour
 2. Pen Pals
 - o Nathan and Del will continue to explore interest from the high schools and their clubs; work with Tina for logistics of a pen pal project with under 18 youth and participation in program (i.e., release forms)

Long-Term Next Steps:

- Continue contact and partnerships with surrounding Seattle-area cities that have Norwegian sister cities.
- Commissioner Kelley compiling a contact list to share with the commission to have in one central location.

2021 Work Plan

- Continue discussion at next meeting.
- MOU with Chefchaouen will be included as a priority.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Recruitment Recap
 - Wei Geiger attending today's meeting to see what commission meetings are like.
- b) Upcoming Leadership Positions
 - May meeting commissioners to express interest in leadership positions.
- c) Farwell to Departing Commissioners
 - Thank you certificates presented.
- d) Parking Lot – None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.