

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Sister Cities Commission

6:30 PM
 June 8, 2021

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

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.

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:
 Stephanie Angula
 Shari Gehrke
 Wei Geiger
 Ryan Opitz
 Charlee Roundhill
 Heather Stapf

Youth Board Representatives:
 Nathan Beh (*Absent*)

Administrative Staff:
 Tina Eggers, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Minutes of May 11, 2021

The minutes were APPROVED as presented by unanimous consent.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS – None.

REGULAR BUSINESS

2021 Work Plan Update and Next Steps, (D)

- Coffee with Commission Virtual events
 - Commissioner Angula reached out to Chefchaouen contact to discuss virtual events between cities and received positive feedback. Commission Angula to continue moving forward with working out logistics (i.e., meeting platform).
- Commission agreed rename the initial Sunndal meeting event to be a Virtual Reunion. Commissioners will make efforts to take pictures socially distanced in masks sister cities landmarks (i.e., blue door, electrical box). Images to be sent to contacts in Sunndal and Chefchaouen.
- Pen Pals Project
 - Commissioner Stapf reached out to Youth Board Liaison and initial feedback regarding a partnership was very positive. Commissioner Stapf is working to schedule a meeting for the week of June 14.
- Connect with other local cities - Norwegian Sister Cities
 - Commissioner Opitz continues to reach out.
- Central Contact List
 - Commissioner Stapf reached out to a former commission member regarding a contact list. A friends Facebook group was created, and Commissioner Stapf will follow-up to see if an excel spreadsheet has been started or compiled.
 - July 13 meeting to start early to help gather contact resources.

- MOUs - still a work in progress with Commissioner Opitz. City Clerk Eggers to work on International Sister Cities International membership renewal.

REPORTS – City Clerk Eggers reported that City Hall return to work is scheduled for July 6, 2021 with limited services. Sister Cities Commission physical meeting space to be moved to the Coho Room for the time being and as the board expands its membership moving to the Tibbetts Creek Manor. City Boards and Commissions moving toward a hybrid approach.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Reminder: Boards and Commissions Chair Training scheduled for June 22, 2021.
- b) July 13, 2021 meeting to:
 - start early to help building contact resource list.
 - appoint liaison to Sister Cities International activities and report back monthly.
- c) Welcome: Commissioner Stapf welcoming a new Issaquah family to the area with a welcome basket and a note from the commission. Basket will include general needs and is accepting any donations from commission members.
- d) Onboarding: Commissioner Angula to connect with Commissioner Geiger offline to support with onboarding.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM.