

City of Sheboygan
2021-04-01

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CITY OF SHEBOYGANMAYOR'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEETHursday, April 1, 2021

Chairperson Rich Miesfeld called the meeting to order at 5: 15 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall (828 Center Avenue, Sheboygan) and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present in-person: Ruth Gerstner, Rich Miesfeld, Cole Phillips, Sarah Schwefel, Patrick Siebold, Julie Vandersteen, and Mayor Mike Vandersteen.

Members present virtually: Yolanda Graf, Charlene Hinze, Mark Hinze, Annie King-Close, and Carolyn Miesfeld.

Guests present virtually: Mary Koczan.

Members not in attendance: Alderperson Betty Ackley, Jim Graf, Tom Michel, Trent Rammer, Anna Schoen, and Henry Schoen.

Correspondence:

Sarah still hasn t received a reply from Tsubame after she emailed them on February 4.

Sarah has been emailing with Jasmine Thorn who is a new co-worker of Katrin s in Esslingen s International Relations Office, she started there in February.

Jasmine was recently contacted by Ulrich Borchers who lives in Germany and found a large linen map of Sheboygan from 1862 in his basement, it is about 50 x 46 . He has mailed the map to Jasmine and she will be planning to do a post on their Facebook page to share a story about this map. Sarah will inform the MIC when the story is posted. Ultimately, the map may end up being gifted to us when we travel to Esslingen in 2022.

Sarah received an email from Ann at the JMKAC and it said that they are still discussing the decision about whether or not they will be doing the Levitt Amp concerts this summer. A decision is expected to be made by the end of April.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of March 4, 2021 meeting; motion passes.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Esslingen Coffee Talks update from Annie King-Close. They have been going for a few weeks now, she s had four meetings with Christian. Things are going well and she extended thanks to Karley in the Sheboygan Fire Dept. for her work on this project. Discuss Esslingen trip 2022. Rich said that he has checked the current travel restrictions in Germany and their hotels are not accepting tourists. We will continue to monitor the situation. Rich asked what the feelings are from the committee about continuing to keep this plan in place, everyone agreed to keep this on the agenda for future discussion. Mark mentioned considering September 2022 as a possible alternative to May 2022. Youth symphony exchange with Esslingen. Mayor Vandersteen has emailed Katrin asking her to present the idea to Mayor Zieger but hasn t received a response yet. We will keep this on as an agenda item and expect to have an update at our May meeting. Future possible fundraisers. No updates at this time. Esslingen Fest 2021. Rich continues to be in communication with the staff at 3 Sheeps and they have suggested considering moving the event to warmer months so that it can be held with the doors open. There is also a possibility of doing this as a drive-thru event. Promoting other Sheboygan international relationships. Annie provided the article about the international relationship between Sheboygan and the Toa Tumaini Foundation of Tanzania that was posted on March 24 on our Facebook page. Rich asked Mayor Vandersteen to do a write-up of his international relationship with the mayors in Canada that are part of the GLSLCI. Tsubame Sister City relationship next steps and sub-committee. Annie gave an update that she and Cole and Betty have been discussing next steps which may include a plan to send one or two Sheboygan delegates to Tsubame as a diplomatic gesture to show them that we are interested in rekindling our Sister City relationship. They are also going to discuss possible fundraising ideas such as Cole s 3 D printed cranes project. Cole plans to bring a mock-up of the 3 D printed cranes mobile to our next MIC meeting. He mentioned that before the pandemic one of his original plans for selling the cranes and raising awareness

of our Sister City was to have a stand at the Farmers Market. Annie, Cole, and Betty are planning to have a virtual meeting next week to discuss their plans for this sub-committee. They would like to write another email to Tsubame to request a virtual meeting with them.

UPCOMING MEETING DATE: May 6, 2021. Note that this will be our re-organization meeting where we elect officers for the year, keep that in mind if you are interested in the position of Chairperson or Vice Chairperson. Mayor Vandersteen also reminded the committee members that everyone's appointments are for one year, so keep an eye out for an email from Sarah in April asking if you want to continue in your role.

Adjourned at 5: 32 pm.