

City of Sheboygan  
2020-11-05

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CITY OF SHEBOYGANMAYOR'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEETHursday, November 5, 2020

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: Jim Graf, Yolanda Graf, Carolyn Miesfeld, Rich Miesfeld, and Sarah Schwefel.

Members present virtually: Annie King-Close, Ruth Gerstner, Charlene Hinze, Mark Hinze, Tom Michel, Trent Rammer, Patrick Siebold, Julie Vandersteen, and Mayor Mike Vandersteen.

Guests present virtually: Mary Koczan.

Members not in attendance: Alderperson Betty Ackley, Cole Phillips, Anna Schoen, and Henry Schoen.

Correspondence:

On October 28 Katrin emailed Sarah, Bob Quasius, and Jon Keckonen with a proposal to begin a project called Coffee with a German to assist Esslingen s fire department staff with getting the opportunity to utilize and refresh their English language skills. This would consist of weekly 30 -minutes meetings via Zoom between five Esslingen firefighters and volunteers from Sheboygan. Karley Campbell who is the Administrative Coordinator for Sheboygan s Fire Dept. is going to serve as our representative in this project to get the plans in place. She will keep Sarah posted about the status of the project going forward. If any MIC members are interested in participating, please contact Sarah.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of October 8, 2020 meeting; motion passes.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Present the gift bags to the two foreign exchange students. Felix Haug from Esslingen, Germany is currently a sophomore at North High. Yoonho Park from South Korea is currently a senior at Lutheran High, this is his third year in the exchange program. Each student received a gift bag that was assembled by Annie. Donation of foreign coins from Shoreline Metro has been received, discuss plans of what to do with the coins. An idea that Julie suggested was using them as a raffle item at our next Esslingen Fest. A few people suggested wanting to know the value of the coins. Mark described how he has displayed his own personal coin collection by using hot glue to glue them onto a backing board and put them into a standard picture frame. Patrick made a motion to have the Mayor's Office hold onto the coins for the coming year so we can make a decision at a later date, second by Julie; motion passes. Promoting other Sheboygan international relationships. Today Rich provided a photo and write-up about the relationship between St. Peter Lutheran Church and Apopa, El Salvador. Sarah posted this info on the MIC Facebook page today, be sure to like and share! If any MIC members have ideas for other organizations to highlight, contact Rich. Rich asked Mayor Vandersteen to do a write-up about his relationship with Canadian mayors via the Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI) that he is the chairperson of. Tsubame Sister City relationship next steps and sub-committee. Cole wrote a message in English and Japanese to share with our contact in Tsubame. Sarah emailed it to the last known contact person that Grazia had been emailing with in 2018. Hopefully that person will reply back, Sarah will keep the MIC posted if/when she hears back. Discuss plans for decorating the City Hall Christmas tree. Mark and Patrick said that they would volunteer to help decorate the Christmas tree as normally scheduled on December 3. Several of the MIC members agreed that they would help also. We will proceed with that plan.

UPCOMING MEETING DATE: December 3, 2020.

Adjourned at 5: 43 pm.