

City of Sheboygan  
2020-10-08

BRZMM55BD79F

CITY OF SHEBOYGANMAYOR'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEETHursday, October 8, 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 attending in-person: Ruth Gerstner, Annie King-Close, Carolyn Miesfeld, Rich Miesfeld, Anna Schoen, Henry Schoen, Sarah Schwefel, and Mayor Mike Vandersteen.

Members attending virtually: Yolanda Graf, Charlene Hinze, Mark Hinze, Trent Rammer, Patrick Siebold, and Julie Vandersteen.

Members not in attendance: Alderperson Betty Ackley, Jim Graf, Tom Michel, and Cole Phillips.

Correspondence: On September 28, Sarah emailed all the MIC members with a copy of the letter from Mayor Zieger that he wrote on September 23 in response to Mayor Vandersteen.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of July 9, 2020 meeting; motion passes.

#### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Possible donation of international coins from Shoreline Metro. Derek from Shoreline Metro has offered to donate the supply of international coins that they have accumulated. He estimates that there is about \$50 worth of Canadian coins and there are about 100 international coins of unknown value. Patrick made a motion that we accept the donation, second by Anna; motion passes. Discuss a trip to Esslingen in 2022. Mayor Vandersteen expressed the hope that there will be a robust delegation to participate in this trip because of the need to reconnect after the challenges presented by the global pandemic. Patrick made a motion that we accept the invitation to travel to Esslingen in May 2022 ; second by Annie; motion passes. Carolyn commented that the planning team would likely not begin working with the travel agency until April/May 2021. Promoting other Sheboygan international relationships. Rich would like us to consider that our committee could use this down time as an opportunity to promote local nonprofits/organizations/churches that have international relationships by sharing stories and information on the MIC Facebook page. Rich will lead the effort on this, he will contact the Chamber of Commerce to see if they have a listing of international organizations. Gift bags for two foreign exchange students. Sarah contacted the area high schools to inquire if they have any exchange students this year. South High and Christian High don t have any. North High has one: Felix Haug from Germany. Lutheran High has one: Yoonho Park from South Korea. This is a continuation for him because he was

also here in 2019 and 2018. However, he wasn't able to attend our student dinner either of those years because he had a schedule conflict with a soccer banquet happening at the same time. He did receive a gift bag though because his host family came to pick it up from City Hall. The MIC wants to invite these two students attend the next MIC meeting to receive the gift bags, Sarah will contact them to invite them. Annie will take the lead on assembling the gift bags, Sarah will assist her. Discuss alternate fundraising options. Patrick suggested considering doing a springtime brat fry. Sarah asked Rich about the status of the People to People brat fry that typically takes place in March, they haven't determined the status of it yet. Annie suggested an idea of a drive-thru event somewhere in the city that could highlight local arts/music/culture with an international flair. Sarah suggested an idea of a scavenger hunt to highlight local landmarks that have an international component. Tsubame Sister City relationship next steps and sub-committee. No new information at this time, we will keep the group updated about the status of the letter to Tsubame. If anyone else has any ideas for local people with Japanese connections, please send the info to Rich.

UPCOMING MEETING DATE: November 5, 2020.

Adjourned at 5: 41 pm.