

**SISTER CITY ADVISORY BOARD
MOTION SUMMARY
January 13, 2015**

ITEM 1. Roll Call

Chairman Guebert called the Sister City Advisory Board meeting to begin at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Rita Selle-Grider, Hong Nguyen, Luke Powers, Will Kopp, Dan Bartha, Councilman Andrew Brush (arrived at 6:02 p.m.), Mayor Carolyn Riggle and Chairman Rand Guebert

ITEM 2. APPROVAL of the Motion Summary of the Sister City Advisory Board meeting held on October 14, 2014, as recorded and transcribed.

MOTION: Mayor Riggle moved to approve the Motion Summary of the Sister City Advisory Board meeting held on October 14, 2014, seconded by Ms. Nguyen. Motion approved by a 6-0-1(Kopp) vote.

Councilman Brush arrived at 6:02 p.m.

ITEM 3. Date of next meeting (TENTATIVE Date: April 14)

ITEM 4. City Status Updates:

a. Baumholder, Germany

Councilman Brush provided an update on the school for Baumholder, Germany, with a probable plan that the school will be closing and students will be divided into three neighboring school systems. Councilman Brush also notified the Advisory Board that the Education Ministry now requires a minimum of ten students for an exchange program, as well as, an English teaching instructor. Discussion held on identifying a partnership between the school system and not through the government.

Chairman Guebert provided information on the interest that Baumholder, Germany has to have a residential exchange with the City of Delaware. Councilman Brush recommended that this program begin with city employees and school employees as a trial. Councilman Brush also recommended that the use of personal transportation be considered when discussing this exchange program.

Ms. Selle-Grider recommends the use of current German speaking residents of the City of Delaware to assist with communication barriers.

b. Arequipa, Peru

Chairman Guebert informed the Board that there has been no response from officials in Arequipa from a letter that was written in October of 2014. Chairman Guebert stated that recent elections and the holiday season could be a reason for the delay in response.

c. Sakata, Japan

A discussion was held on having city administration from Sakata visit during the school visit, and have the Sister City Advisory Board arrange host families for their visit.

d. Omutninsk, Russia

A discussion was held on forming a partnership with the City of Omutninsk.

Public Participation:

Ms. Colleen Huckabee, 100 Willow Brook Way, Apt 2007, Delaware Ohio

Ms. Huckabee discussed recent contact with residents in Omutninsk and recommended that the Board, engage younger generation to help approach a relationship between the two cities.

Ms. Elena Lubenets, 8046 Lakelooop Drive, Westerville Ohio 43081

Ms. Lubenets discussed growing up in a city near Omutninsk, and her past history of being an exchange student. Ms. Lubenets explained the differences in the school system from the United States of America and Russia. Ms. Lubenets also discussed the need to look at the seasonal year for a visit due to harsh winter climates.

Mr. Paul Olen, 358 ½ N. Sandusky Street, Delaware Ohio, 43015

Mr. Olen discussed the need to determine if an exchange program is available and if the government has recently stopped the program.

Ms. Anastasia Martimyan, 5026 Dierker Road, Columbus Ohio, 43220

Ms. Martimyan discussed with the Board her experiences as an exchange student and that some programs have been banned, but not all.

ITEM 5. Advisory Board Development

a. Possible Rotary Club Contacts

Chairman Guebert discussed that the City Manager and himself will be attending a meeting with the Rotary Club to discuss coordination and communication to assist with forming sister city relationships.

b. Coordination between City Staff and Advisory Board

A discussion was held on who should be the formal liaison from the City of Delaware to make formal invitations and communication. Councilman Brush felt that the City Manager at this time had too many other responsibilities to take on this role.

c. Global Scholars Diploma

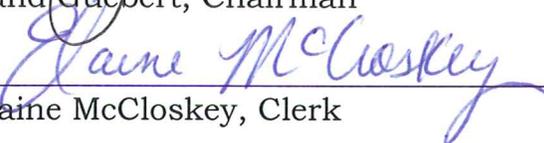
Chairman Guebert provided information on this new developing program which is a supplemental degree for high school students to develop international awareness and cultural understanding. Chairman Guebert feels that this program could become an excellent complement to the sister city activities for the City of Delaware.

ITEM 6. Adjournment

MOTION: Mayor Riggle moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Powers. The Sister City Advisory Board Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.



Rand Guebert, Chairman



Elaine McCloskey, Clerk