

**CITY OF DELAWARE  
SISTER CITY ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1 SOUTH SANDUSKY STREET  
October 9, 2018  
6:00 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

1. ROLL CALL
2. ELECTION of Officers
  - A. Chairperson
  - B. Vice-Chairperson
3. APPROVAL of the Motion Summary for the meeting held on July 10, 2018, as recorded and transcribed.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS
5. REVIEW on Baumholder Visit
6. UPDATE on Sakata
7. UPDATE on Ireland
8. REVIEW of Annual Report to City Council
9. MEMBER COMMENTS
10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: January 8, 2019
11. ADJOURNMENT

**SISTER CITY ADVISORY BOARD  
MOTION SUMMARY  
July 10, 2018**

ITEM 1. ROLL CALL

The Sister City Advisory Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Guebert at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Collen Rush, Julie Means, Rita Selle-Grider, Mayor Carolyn Riggle, and Chairman Rand Guebert

Members Absent: Darrell Albon and Julie Horvath

**Motion to Excuse:** Mayor Riggle motioned to excuse Mr. Albon and Ms. Horvath, seconded by Ms. Rush. Motion approved by a 5-0 vote.

ITEM 2. ELECTION of Officers

- A. Chairperson
- B. Vice-Chairperson

The Board was in agreement to wait for the election of officers at the next regularly scheduled meeting to allow for all members to be present.

ITEM 3. APPROVAL of the Motion Summary of the Sister City Advisory Board meeting held on April 10, 2018, as recorded and transcribed.

**Motion:** Mayor Riggle moved to approve the Motion Summary of the Sister City Advisory Board meeting held on April 10, 2018, as recorded and transcribed, seconded by Ms. Rush. Motion approved by a 5-0 vote.

ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comments.

ITEM 5. UPDATE on Baumholder Visit

- A. Veteran's Photograph Date – July 31, 2018

The Clerk provided an update on the planned travel arrangements for Mayor Riggle, Councilwoman Keller, and Chairman Rand Guebert to Baumholder, Germany in September for the opening of the cultural center. The Clerk also informed the Board that Blue Maple Photography will be providing services to take a picture of veterans that were stationed at Baumholder on July 31, 2018. The plan is to present the picture to officials in Baumholder as a gift to the cultural center.

The Clerk also discussed the planned trip of a delegation from Baumholder to the City at the end of September. A discussion was held on potential activities and places to visit for the delegation. The Board plans to communicate via email to provide updates and suggestions on the planning and itinerary for the upcoming visit. A suggestion to visit the Ohio State House and take a tour of German Village was discussed, as well as, working with Ohio Wesleyan University on have a tour and the delegation attend a soccer game. Other suggestions were shopping, zoo trip, and out of town activities, such as Malabar Farms or the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The Clerk plans to arrange a Skype call with officials in Baumholder to receive further suggestions from them on setting an itinerary.

- ITEM 6. UPDATE of Sakata
  - A. Art Exchange
  - B. Newspaper Exchange

The Clerk provided an update on the 2019 art exchange program with Sakata. The first exchange will be a student art exchange from both students of Sakata and Delaware City Schools. The artwork from Sakata will be displayed at the Arts Castle during the month of December of 2019. An update was also provided regarding the plans to have a Ken Domon exhibit at the Ross Art Museum.

- ITEM 7. UPDATE on Ireland Future Opportunities

Ms. Rush provided an update on having student athletes visit Lahardane Ireland during Spring Break of 2019 and Summer Break of 2019. She provided information on activities that will be included in the trip. A discussion was held on having the band students provide a presentation on their personal experiences from their trip to Ireland. Ms. Rush discussed difficulties finding a time to schedule the presentation at the end of the school year with Delaware City Schools. The Board plans to contact Delaware City Schools to find some dates that would accommodate a presentation in the fall. The Board also requested that the Clerk reserve a table at the August First Friday event to promote upcoming Sister City events and travels. Chairman Guebert plans to send out the protocol on establishing a Sister City.

- ITEM 8. MEMBER COMMENTS

A discussion was held on starting a Facebook page to help promote the efforts of the Sister City Advisory Board.

Chairman Guebert informed the Board that he will be drafting the annual report for City Council and will have it prepared at the next meeting.

- ITEM 9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: October 9, 2018

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion:** Mayor Riggle moved to adjourn the Sister City Advisory Board Meeting, seconded by Ms. Rush. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Rand Guebert, Chairman

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Elaine McCloskey, Clerk

**DELAWARE SISTER CITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**5th ANNUAL REPORT - DRAFT**  
**AUGUST 1, 2018**

Current Members:	Representing:
Rand Guebert, Chair	Local citizens
Julie Horvath	Delaware City Schools
Darell Albon	Ohio Wesleyan University
Julie Means	Local citizens
Carolyn Kay Riggle	City Council
Colleen Rush	Local citizens
Rita Selle-Grider	Local citizens

**INTRODUCTION**

As is fairly typical for a sister city program, we had unexpected opportunities and frustrations during the past year.

Two members of our Board, Colleen Rush and Julie Horvath, worked with Delaware Hayes High School to organize a new contact with the town of Lahardane in Ireland. The Hayes marching band was able to visit Lahardane and participate in this year's St. Patrick's Day parade there. A group of student athletes will be following up with a visit of their own in the Spring of 2019.

We continued to develop our contacts with Sakata and Baumholder. We are encouraged by the formation in Baumholder of a committee to work with us in planning activities—this is already smoothing our contacts with the City.

We were also able to promote a program given last January by Luke Miller, a Delaware native who is cycling around the world in stages. We would like to highlight the international exploits of local people where we can.

**FIFTH YEAR DEVELOPMENTS**

The Advisory Board continued to meet regularly on the second Tuesday of the first month of each quarter. We experienced one change as Darrell Albon replaced Will Kopp as the OWU representative. Tom Homan and Elaine McCloskey have been instrumental in providing us with administrative assistance.

As mentioned in the Introduction, the highlight of the past year was the school visit to Lahardane, Ireland. Our April meeting was devoted to a report by various students, parents and administrators who went. It was by far our longest meeting,

but it was very moving to hear the stories of students, parents and administrators who went. A group of gymnasts from Hayes plans to visit Lahardane during Spring Break this year, and another small group of athletes will go in June. We are glad to be able to support these initiatives.

We are very glad that the new Sister City committee in Baumholder has been more responsive. We thought when our year started that the long-awaited museum dedication would take place in May 2018, but it was postponed again to September 14, 2018. Efforts were made to mobilize local veterans to attend the dedication with city representatives, but this did not materialize, possibly due to the several postponements. Mayor Riggle, Lisa Keller and Rand Guebert will represent City Council and the Advisory Board at the dedication (in the end, Mayor Riggle was unable to make the trip).

With the initiative of the new Sister City committee in Baumholder, a delegation from there will visit Delaware from September 29 – October 6 very shortly after the museum dedication. We are expecting 5-10 people and a program is being planned to show them our City and the surrounding community. Baumholder is a very interesting town and we hope that more Delaware residents will be able to discover this in future years.

Plans are underway with the City of Sakata to host an art exhibit in 2019 or 2020. The Ross Art Museum and The Arts Castle are assisting in this. Dempsey Middle School again hosted 20 students from Sakata last November and will be doing this again in 2018. The former Sister City liaison, Rika Abe, has returned to this position in the Sakata administration and this is very helpful for us.

We have had no contact with Omutninsk in the last year, likely due to the unsettled political situation. It is recommended that we let this situation continue to lie dormant.

A new initiative this year was the presentation given by Luke Miller on January 9, 2018 about his around-the-world bicycle trip. The event was held at the Willis Education Center and was attended by about 70 people. This presentation is consistent with our efforts to give Delaware a more international orientation.

Each year we as a Board have to remind ourselves that we are an Advisory Board and that we have to recommend and support activities for which we have time and resources.

### **OBJECTIVES FOR 2018-2019**

Our primary objective for the remainder of 2018 is to organize and execute the exchange of visits with Baumholder. The District Mayor will come here, so we have

a good opportunity to deepen our relationship with the City. Dr. Jay Martin has been very helpful in facilitating a better relationship.

We will be considering during the next year ways that we can continue to maintain regular contact with our sister cities and take some of the load off of Elaine McCloskey, who has been coordinating a number of contacts.

Trips are planned to Lahardane in the coming year and work will progress on the art exchange with Sakata. Three students from Delaware high schools are going overseas this year with Rotary to France, Japan and Brazil.

Efforts are underway to have a more regular presence at First Fridays. As a Board we are looking for opportunities to promote international activities for which there is enthusiasm in the community. Schools have played an important part in the development of our sister cities, so this will be a specific area on which to focus.

In closing, the Advisory Board would like to thank City Council, Tom Homan and Elaine McCloskey for their support during the past year.

Rand Guebert, Chair  
August 23, 2018