

CITY OF SHEBOYGAN
MAYOR'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MINUTES
Thursday, April 07, 2022

Persons with disabilities who need accommodations to attend this meeting should contact the Mayor's Office, (920) 459-3317. Persons other than commission, committee, and board members who wish to participate remotely shall provide notice to the Mayor's Office at 920-459-3317 at least 24 hours before the meeting so that the person may be provided a remote link for that purpose.

1. OPENING OF MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

Chairperson Rich Miesfeld called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm in Conference Room 106 at City Hall (828 Center Avenue, Sheboygan) and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: Sarah Schwefel, Annie King-Close, Dana Elmzen (virtual), Pete Janssen, Monica Hart (virtual), Nick Laurie, Carolyn Miesfeld, Rich Miesfeld, Cole Phillips, Tony Rammer, Dane Schaefer, and Libby Olbrantz.

Members not in attendance: Mayor Ryan Sorenson, Alderperson Betty Ackley, Deidre Martinez, and Deb Sabol-Williams.

Guests in attendance: Mary Koczan.

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

1.3. Correspondence

The packet of seeds from Esslingen are most likely wildflowers. Emily Rendall-Araujo has potted them and will plan to transfer them to the ground later this spring and see what happens.

On March 16, Ryan mailed a package to Tsubame with some booklets from Visit Sheboygan and the Chamber and also included a letter. He hasn't heard back from them yet but hopefully will soon.

Sarah emailed Josh Hernday at the Sheboygan Symphony to ask if he has any updates about the Youth Symphony partnership. He said that he doesn't have any updates.

Reminder that the 86th German Heritage Celebration is on Saturday, April 9 at St. Dominic's from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm. There is also a brat fry for People To People happening on Saturday, April 23 at Miesfeld's from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Info about both of these events is posted on the MIC Facebook page.

2. MINUTES

2.1. Approve minutes of March 3, 2022 meeting.

Motion to approve minutes of March 3, 2022 meeting; all ayes and motion passes.

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

3.1. Discuss trip to Esslingen – September 27 - October 7.

Geri Hiebing at Travel Leaders is working on the logistics of the trip to make the most cost-effective plans. Due to the timing proximity to Oktoberfest, hotels in Munich are quite expensive and she's looking into an alternate plan for Regensburg. Stay tuned for more updates soon. (For those doing the river cruise: September 27 through October 7. For those doing the Vienna trip: September 29 through October 7. For those doing only the Esslingen trip: October 2 through October 7.)

3.2. Esslingen Fest – Sunday, August 14.

The venue is confirmed with 3 Sheeps and the Ryan Kautzer Band is confirmed. Carolyn will come to City Hall to further organize the supplies in the basement. Sarah will email Tony with the details of the Johnsonville sponsorship and the amount of donated meat for what we've had in the past. Rich will ask 3 Sheeps if they will consider making a small batch of the onion beer that they've made in the past. Deb isn't here today but we are hopeful that she'd like to continue being in charge of the raffle baskets because she did such a wonderful job last year. A suggestion was made for doing a cake decorating contest where the public could submit cakes that they've decorated with the onion theme. Cole said that if we had an onion costume that he would wear it – maybe Deb can come up with an idea for making an onion costume!

3.3. Middle school exchange student event.

Carolyn will be meeting with Paula of People To People next week to set dates and start discussing activities. She will keep Nick in the loop since he had suggestions for activity ideas. Stay tuned for an update at our next meeting.

3.4. Esslingen Coffee Talks update – Annie King-Close.

They are continuing to go well overall for the participants and they enjoy the casual nature of the program. Annie and her partner Christian have been doing a Zoom meeting on a monthly basis for nearly a year. She feels that it is a good model for a program that could be expanded to other partnerships.

3.5. Esslingen Sister City updates.

No other updates at this time.

3.6. Tsubame Sister City updates and sub-committee.

We haven't received any updates from Betty since the idea she suggested at the March meeting, hopefully we'll hear more soon. Rich talked to Chris Hancock (from People To People) about the "Classroom to Classroom" program that is like a pen pal program. He will follow up with her next week to get more details about this.

3.7. Levitt Amp Concert volunteering.

From the votes received, there were five dates that each tied with 6 votes: June 23, July 21, July 28, August 11, and August 18. The group consensus is to do July 21. Sarah will contact JMKAC to confirm the preference for July 21 and we'll plan to have a signup sheet at our May 5 meeting.

3.8. Future plans and ideas.

Please note that the term for all of the MIC members is 1 year and will expire on Monday, April 18, 2022 when the current Council year ends. The current members are planned to be reappointed for the next

Council year which begins on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. Therefore, at our MIC meeting on May 5 we will have our Election of Officers. So please think about if you are interested in being considered for Chairperson or Vice Chairperson.

Cole is going to be making a request for a Saturday that we can volunteer to assist with an event at Christopher Farms, he'll keep us posted.

4. CLOSING OF MEETING

4.5. Next Meeting Date: May 5, 2022.

4.6. Adjourn

Adjourn at 5:40 pm.

In compliance with Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law, this agenda was posted in the following locations more than 24 hours prior to the time of the meeting:

*City Hall • Mead Public Library
Sheboygan County Administration Building • City's website*