

CITY OF SHEBOYGAN
MAYOR'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, April 4, 2024

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.

OPENING OF MEETING

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Alexandria King-Close 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: Chairperson Alexandria King-Close, Mayor Ryan Sorenson, Alderperson Zach Rust, Vice Chair Peter Janssen, Vice Chair Lisa Salgado, Deb Sabol-Williams, Sarah Engel-Streicher, Brittany Wagner, Aubrey Lockwood, Tomomi Kanemaru, Kara Ottum, Mickenzie Petrie, Alex Vanden Huevel, Melissa Para, and Cole Phillips.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

MINUTES

3. Approval of March 7th, 2024, minutes.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

4. Love INC Refugee Resettlement

- a. Love INC received approval to serve as a local agency for refugee resettlement in Sheboygan County
- b. They work with Episcopal Migration Ministries for this ministry
- c. Refugees will be coming from Latin America, Africa, S.E. Asia, Burma & the Rohingya from Myanmar
- d. MIC will explore supporting needs like Arrival Team, Employment Mentors, Transportation, Hygiene & Clothes Drive
- e. Annie will reach out to Love INC

5. Esslingen Fest Planning

- a. Pete will schedule a meeting to assign lead roles for venue, marketing, setup, food/bake sale, volunteers, raffle

6. Potential Sister City with Clervaux, Luxembourg

- a. Marc Zimer proposed a sister city relationship with Clervaux
- b. They want to wait until a student exchange program is established first
- c. Marc will be in Sheboygan for LuxFest in August and can meet to discuss further
- d. Lisa replied that MIC is interested in meeting during LuxFest

7. Potential Sister City with St. Catharines, Canada

- a. St. Catharines is interested in becoming a Sheboygan sister city
- b. Mayor Sorenson will reach out to start the process with a letter of intent
- c. A formal agreement outlining the partnership terms needs approval

8. Tsubame Public Library Display

- a. The March display was a success, thanks to Deb & Brittney
- b. It was featured in local press
- 9. Tsubame Student Delegation Visit (July 31 - August 8)
 - a. 4 more host families are needed
 - b. Need to know if students are girls or boys for background checks
 - c. Mayor will reach out to People to People and Rotary
 - d. MIC members can participate in daytime events
- 10. School Partnerships
 - a. Mickenzie reached out to Jasmine in Esslingen but no younger pen pals available currently
- 11. Esslingen Coffee Talks
 - a. Alex is the lead and will connect with Veronica
- 12. Potential Esslingen Business Trip
 - a. Interest from city employees to visit in Sept/Oct 2024
 - b. Business development opportunity with MilliporeSigma (Merck KGaA)
 - c. A sparkling wine company interested in US trade permits
- 13. Japanese Cooking Event
 - a. Deb meeting with Marilyn Montemayor (UPTOWN Social) and Tomomi on April 9th to plan
- 14. Japanese Movie Night
 - a. At Mead Library on April 24th, showing "My Neighbor Totoro"
 - b. MIC members arrive 4:30-5pm to set up
 - c. Mayor will give brief remarks before the film
- 15. Pride Event (June 22nd)
 - a. MIC will have an informational table/booth
 - b. Need volunteers to staff the booth
- 16. Marketing Materials
 - a. Event team will meet Mayor to discuss needs like table materials, t-shirts, tent, flyers, etc.
- 17. Levitt AMP Music Series
 - a. MIC will volunteer for children's activities and bartending
 - b. Brittney coordinating
- 18. Tsubame Event at Christopher Gardens
 - a. Combo fundraiser for 2025 Japan trip and cultural education
 - b. Planning stations like origami, tea ceremony, performances, etc.
 - c. Deb will arrange meeting at Christopher Gardens
- 19. Farmer's Market Booth
 - a. Mayor will contact SCIO about having an MIC table
- 20. Language Immersion Series
 - a. Potential Japanese and German language lessons at library
 - b. Possibly involving Lakeland College students.

Closing of Meeting

- 21. Next Meeting - May 2nd
- 22. Adjourn

Adjourn at 6:25 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: