

CITY OF SHEBOYGAN

MAYOR'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, September 07, 2023

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

Vice Chair Peter Janssen called the meeting to order at 5:13 PM in Conference Room 106 at City Hall (828 Center Avenue, Sheboygan) and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor Ryan Sorenson, Alderperson Zach Rust, Cole Philips, Vice Chair Lisa Salgado, Sarah Engel-Streicher, Veronica Valdez, Vice Chair Peter Janssen, Nicole Brown, Mickenzie Petrie and Alex Vanden Huevel.

Members not in attendance: Chairperson Alexandria King-Close, Deb Sabol-Williams, Tony Rammer, and Deidre Martinez

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Correspondence

There is a student in Sheboygan from Esslingen. The Mayor sent a welcome e-mail to the student. A university in Esslingen requested to be connected with UWGB in Sheboygan, so the connection was made.

Tsubame plans on sending high school students to Sheboygan. They are hosting an English-speaking contest and will send the winners. They are requesting tours of City Hall, schools and for us to host other events. They would also like us to advertise and recruit American host families for the students. We are still working on finding out how many students and the dates they are coming.

MINUTES

4. Approval of August 3rd, 2023 minutes.

The Mayor's International Committee did not have corium for the August 3rd meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

5. Esslingen Fest

a. Debrief

We appreciate Johnsonville for donating the meat for the event! We made \$3,800, which was about \$1,000 less than last year.

Suggestions made:

- Some of the food was cold, so we will need to plug it in right when we arrive next year.

- We also need more bake sale items.
- We would like to set up MIC information at the event, with photos, to enlighten the community about what MIC is.
- A community member suggested having the event at the Biergarten, but the weather is unpredictable and this year there was flooding.
- Advertise the event earlier
- Pay by credit card, Venmo or have a tablet with a square
- Raffles- create a subcommittee, collect donations throughout the year (non-perishables), better drop off system
- Thank you cards, done by the entire MIC committee to businesses that contributed
- More volunteers- students from German class (offer free brats)
- MIC voluntarily wear costumes
- Develop a new process for ordering food
- Create a timeline for planning Esslingen fest
- **Have an upcoming meeting in September to develop Esslingenfest Standard Operating Procedures

6. Tsubame

a. School Partnerships

Longfellow school sent a video to Tsubame. Katie Reese is working on having the children perform Japanese melodies on their recorders and send it to schools in Tsubame for Children's Day. Esslingen Fest – August 20

b. Coffee Talks

The pairing list of MIC members with Tsubame city staff has been sent to Tsubame. We are awaiting their reply and we also need to add our new members if they wish to participate. The meeting times will be decided on by the individuals.

c. Updates

Tomomi and Wm Bulson lived in Japan and he is a chaplain. They speak Japanese and will be great assets for knowing customs. We will see if they want to apply to be on MIC. Peter Janssen will reach out to Aubrey Lockwood, who works for Kohler hospitality and has lived in Japan, to see if she would like to apply for MIC. The City Council approved Kara Ottom for MIC and she will be invited to the next meeting in October. Brittany Wagner sent in an MIC application.

7. Esslingen

a. School Partnerships

The University of Wisconsin - Green Bay displays potential cooperation opportunities. A dean at the Esslingen University of Applied Sciences got in contact and informed us that there is also a Sheboygan-campus of the university which offers Mechanical Engineering and Business. It would

be interesting to explore the possibility of a cooperation between our two universities in these subjects.

b. Coffee Talks – No updates at this time

c. Updates - No updates at this time

Additional Topics-

Tomomi and Wm Bulson lived in Japan and he is a chaplain. They speak Japanese and will be great assets for knowing customs. We will see if they want to apply to be on MIC. Peter Janssen will reach out to Aubrey Lockwood, who works for Kohler hospitality and has lived in Japan, to see if she would like to apply for MIC. The City Council approved Kara Ottom for MIC and she will be invited to the next meeting in October. Brittany Wagner sent in an MIC application.

MIC LOGOS- Sarah Engel-Streicher created several wonderful logos for MIC. We narrowed it down to approximately 6.

MIC members should go to the Sheboygan city website and see our new site. We would like to add more tabs and photos.

We would like to have 4 more sister cities by next year, so research on your own and bring ideas to the next meeting. Also, view Esslingen's sister city list online for ideas. Other suggestions were Italy, St. Catharine's in Canada and possibly Ukraine.

Closing of Meeting

8. Next Meeting – October 5th

9. Adjourn

Adjourn at 6:05 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*