

Juneau Sister Cities Committee
Minutes of Retreat
January 13, 2013

Attendees: Sue Baxter (Vice Chair) Glenn Gray Maria Uchytel

Absent: Jeremy Frank and Tom Chard (Chair)

1. Updates

- a. **Assembly Report and Committee Vacancies:** There are two vacancies for the seats held by Tom and Jeremy. Both have decided not to reapply for their seats.
- b. **Assembly Report:** The Committee's annual report to the Assembly has been scheduled for January 28. Sue will lead the effort and Maria and Glenn will assist.
- c. **Officers:** The committee officers will be elected at the next meeting. The election will be public noticed.
- d. **Vladivostok Student Visit:** Sue reported that 10-15 students will come to Juneau in July for a 2-3 week period. The students will be paying their own way but will need homestays. An official letter of invitation will be required in order to obtain the student visas. Sue will check about health insurance coverage for students. Sister City International provides assistance with student visas, but we may need to reinstate our membership to receive such assistance.

2. Retreat

Using the minutes from the December 23 retreat, Maria prepared a document for a committee planning document. The committee suggested the following changes be made to the planning document.

Add a strategy to Goal 1:

- Investigate expansion of mission to include international relations beyond sister city relations.

Add strategies under goal 3 Strengthen Community Partnerships

- Raise awareness of SC committee (e.g., display at the airport, Signs at airport, or display at Visitor Center at the Port).
- Participate at the Juneau Maritime Festival by having a booth.

3. Whitehorse

The Committee agreed to meet with Mayor Sanford to discuss scheduling an event with Whitehorse, February 21-24. Either the Committee or the Assembly may choose to initiate a

meeting with Whitehorse during the Sourdough Rendezvous celebration. The Mayor may also decide to invite the City Council to Juneau.

4. Other

- The committee agreed to request the Assembly reinstate Juneau's membership in SCI.
- The Committee will revisit its mission statement
- Glenn will obtain last year's PowerPoint presentation to the Assembly from Tom.
- The presentation to the Assembly will provide a recap of what has occurred over the past year (meeting with Filipino Community, the potluck for exchange students, meeting with Chinese delegation, introduction of students to school board and assembly, and committee retreat.
- Next Steps
 - January 28th presentation to the Assembly
 - Reinstate SCI membership
 - Schedule an event between Whitehorse Council and CBJ Assembly
 - Develop action plans for objectives
 - Invite the Kalibo delegation to meeting with the Committee
 - Next meeting – February 26 at noon

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