

Juneau Sister Cities Committee

Minutes of July 13, 2012

Attendees: Tom Chard (Chair) Sue Baxter (Vice Chair) Glenn Gray
Jeremy Frank Maria Uchtyl (Guest)
Mark Miller (Guest - Juneau Empire)

1. Approval of Agenda

The committee approved the agenda without changes.

2. Approval of Minutes and Introductions

The minutes from the June 1 were approved as amended. The committee members introduced themselves to the guests. Jeremy announced that he is not moving out of town.

3. Strategies to Build Relationships

Tom summarized the results of the community survey and the committee's decision to focus on its existing sister city relationships rather than establish new relationships.

- **Camiling:** Dormant. Nothing to report.
- **Whitehorse:** Glenn reported that he sent an email to Sheila Dodd inviting her to participate in a video or audio teleconference with Juneau. There are 3 Rotary clubs in Whitehorse. There used to be a Juneau sister cities delegation to Whitehorse during the Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous in February
- **Chia-Yi:** Nothing new to report.
- **Mishan City:** Tom said there are a couple of Mishan City's in China and that, our sister city is located in Heilongjiang Province. He said the Juneau String Ensemble (JSE) is planning to send 25 students to China in June 2013 and that they have raised \$10,000 towards a goal of \$75,000. Guohua Xia is the conductor and Sue Tomlinson is a good contact for the JSE. They are looking at visiting 3-4 cities. In response to a request by Tom, Jeremy made a motion to join with the JSE in their efforts to China with intent of visiting our sister city. Jeremy withdrew the motion after the committee decided it would be a good idea to have the JSE board president attend one of the Sister City Committee meetings.
- **Vladivostok:** Sue reported that Jana Lelchuk, the Russian teacher at Thunder Mountain Junior High School, is still on board to participate in the visit of Russian students being organized by Maria Fedora of Vladivostok. Sue tried to participate in Sister Cities International's webinar regarding visas for sister city exchanges, but it was scheduled without explanation. Tom said the Russian language club will start up again in the fall.

4. General Strategies to Build Awareness/Relationships

- **Exchange Students:** She discussed the plan for a community potluck for the exchange students. She said she contacted Sally Sadler, AFS, Terry Tibbet and Judith Maier. She said the school district is difficult to contact during the summer. Sue suggested we introduce the exchange students at an Assembly meeting and a school board meeting. The

committee discussed different options and agreed it would be best to have a potluck that was open to the entire community either the 3rd or 4th week of September. The committee will continue to discuss this idea at its August meeting.

- **Presentation to Schools:** Tom will continue to try to find contacts in our other sister cities.
- **Toolkits:** Nothing to report.
- **Airport Display:** Tom will work with Ruth Danner.
- **Facebook/Wikipedia Site:** We are still waiting on a social media policy from the Assembly.

5. Other Business

- **Website updates:** Jeremy will work on this.
- **Next Meeting**
 - Friday August 31st , noon