

# ***AGENDA***

## ***Sister Cities Commission***

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Thursday, August 27, 2009  
Milpitas City Hall, Committee Conference Room  
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.  
7:00 PM

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Seating of Alternates**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Approval of Minutes: July 23, 2009**
- V. Approval of Agenda**
- VI. Announcements/Correspondence**
- VII. Public Forum**

Members of the audience are invited to address the Commission on any subject not on tonight's agenda. Speakers must supply their name and address for the record. Commissioners cannot respond to issues brought forward, but may request that the matter be placed on the agenda of a future meeting.

### **VIII. Old Business**

#### **1. CONSIDERATION OF NON-VOTING STUDENT MEMBER**

**Background:** In order to generate greater student interest and participation in sister cities activities, the commission proposed the possibility of have a non-voting student member on the commission. The commission suggested attendance at a Youth Advisory Commission meeting to help determine if there is interest in student participation on the commission, which would require a change to the by-laws.

- Staff Liaison Cuciz presented an informational memo from Chair Grilli to the Youth Advisory Commission (YAC) on July 9, 2009, and obtained their feedback. One YAC member showed interest and will attend the Sister Cities Commission meeting in August to ask questions and determine if she is committed to serving on the commission in a non-voting role.

**Recommendation:** Discuss role of non-voting student member participation with YAC member. Determine next steps.

## **2. HUIZHOU CITY, CHINA: STATUS REPORT ON SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP**

### **Background:**

Lead Commissioner: Chair Grilli

- Milpitas and Huizhou signed an updated MOU in September 2008 for a five-year term.
- A student exchange from Huizhou to Milpitas is being planned for October and/or November 2009.
- Continue discussions regarding a possible student exchange from Milpitas to Huizhou during Spring Break, 2010.

**Recommendation:** Receive verbal report from Lead Commissioner Grilli.

## **3. DAGUPAN CITY, PHILIPPINES: STATUS REPORT ON SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP**

### **Background:**

Lead Commissioner: Mateo

- The Sister Cities Commission is recommending a 5-year renewal of the MOU. This recommendation will be presented to the City Council on September 15, 2009.
- A government delegation from Dagupan will visit Milpitas on September 15, 2009. Staff will arrange a presentation for the group on subjects pertaining to their current mutual interests. The delegation will also attend the City Council meeting on the same day to sign the MOU.

**Recommendation:** Receive verbal report from Staff Liaison Cuciz and Lead Commissioner Mateo.

## **4. TSUKUBA CITY, JAPAN: STATUS REPORT ON SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP**

### **Background:**

Lead Commissioners: Arbaugh & Tran.

- Staff finalized the MOU with Tsukuba per their comments and the Sister Cities Commission recommendations. The MOU will be presented to the City Council on August 18, 2009, with a proposed 5-year renewal to begin on September 1, 2009.

**Recommendation:** Receive verbal report from Staff Liaison Cuciz and Lead Commissioners Arbaugh and Tran.

## **5. NAM-GU CITY, INCHEON, SOUTH KOREA: STATUS REPORT ON FRIENDSHIP CITY RELATIONSHIP**

### **Background:**

Lead Commissioner: Chen

- At their meeting on May 28, 2009, the Sister Cities Commission responded to Nam-gu's written request for "Friendship" City status by recognizing Nam-gu as a Friendship City with Milpitas.
- A government delegation from Nam-gu visited Milpitas on July 28, 2009. A Signing Ceremony was conducted during the visit and the Mayors of both cities signed a Friendship Agreement. During their visit, Nam-gu representatives extended an invitation to the Milpitas City Council, Sister Cities Commissioners and staff to visit Nam-gu in September.

- Mr. David Chang, the Co-Chairman of the Korean-American Federation of Southwest States (located in Santa Clara) is the local contact for Nam-gu.

**Recommendation:** Receive verbal report from Staff Liaison Cuciz and Commissioner Chen.

## 6. WESTERN EUROPEAN SISTER CITY RESEARCH STATUS REPORT

### **Background:**

Lead Commissioners: Arefi, Arbaugh & Serpa.

- At the July 2009 commission meeting, Commissioner Arefi asked staff to send informational packets to Cookstown, Northern Ireland, Angers, France and Meppen, Germany. He noted that both Milpitas and Meppen share common interests in technology and a similar population.
- On March 17, 2009, the City Council approved the commission's request to pursue a possible sister city relationship with Hochheim, Germany. A letter of interest was mailed from Mayor Livengood to the Mayor of Hochheim in early April 2009. To date no reply has been received from Hochheim. (Lead Commissioner Arbaugh)
- A representative from Newry, Northern Ireland, sent an email request for information about Milpitas. Staff mailed an information packet to Newry in early April 2009. To date no reply has been received from Newry. (Lead Commissioner Arefi)
- Vice Chair Arbaugh requested a discussion about Derby, England. He made contact with John Forkin, Director of Marketing Derby. In May 2009, the commission requested that staff send an informational packet to Derby, which was sent in early June. To date no reply has been received regarding Derby. (Lead Commissioner Arbaugh)
- Vice Mayor McHugh and Alternate Commissioner Serpa are researching sister city opportunities in the province of Florence, Italy.
- Commissioners Arefi, Arbaugh and Serpa are continuing research on the potential for other western European sister cities.

**Recommendation:** Receive update from Lead Commissioners Arefi, Arbaugh and Serpa.

## CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

## IX. SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON REPORT

## X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Sister City & Friendship Relationships/Cultural Exchanges:
  - i. Huizhou City, China
  - ii. Dagupan City, Philippines
  - iii. Tsukuba City, Japan
  - iv. Nam-gu City, Incheon, South Korea
2. Western European Sister City Research
3. Non-voting Student Commission Member

## XI. ADJOURNMENT

### KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE **OPEN GOVERNMENT ORDINANCE**

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and the City operations are open to the people's review.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Sister Cities Commission after initial distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the City Clerk's office at Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas during normal business hours.

For more information on your rights under the Open Government Ordinance or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact the City Attorney's office at Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, CA 95035  
E-mail: [mogaz@ci.milpitas.ca.gov](mailto:mogaz@ci.milpitas.ca.gov) / Fax 408/586-3030 / Phone 408/586-3040

*The Open Government Ordinance is codified in the Milpitas Municipal Code as Title I Chapter 310 and is available online at the City's website [www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov](http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov) by selecting the Milpitas Municipal Code link.*

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, individuals requiring accommodation for this Meeting should notify the Sister Cities Commission Staff Liaison 48 hours prior to the meeting at (408) 586-2600, TDD (408) 586-2611.