

CITY OF MILPITAS  
SISTER CITIES ADVISORY COMMISSION (SCC)  
COMMUNITY ROOM, MILPITAS CITY HALL

MINUTES  
April 28, 2016

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call** Chair Grilli called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners present: Arbaugh, Arefi, Chen, Chang, Grilli. Commissioners absent: Bayot, Llamas. Alternate commissioners present: Manogaran, Awasthi.
- Council Liaison Marsha Grilli: Present  
MHS Student Liaison: No one designated at this time.  
MUSD Liaison Gunawan Alisantosa: Absent  
Staff Liaison Leslie Stobbe: Present
- II. Alternates Seating of** Alternate Commissioners Manogaran and Awasthi were seated.
- III. Allegiance Pledge of** Chair Grilli conducted the Pledge.
- IV. Minutes** MOTION to approve the minutes of March 24, 2016.  
M / S: Arbaugh / Chen Ayes: All
- V. Agenda** MOTION to approve the agenda of April 28, 2016.  
M / S: Arbaugh / Manogaran Ayes: All
- VI. Announcements:** Staff stated that the Commissioners' Recognition is this Saturday, April 30, starting at 11:30AM in the Milpitas Community Center Auditorium.
- VII. Public Forum:** None.

## **VIII. Old Business**

### **1. Discuss Future of Sister City Program**

The SCC discussed the following: What can we do to create interest in the community? It was decided to tell the stories of sister cities and use Milpitas students' stories about interactions with sister city students. E-Pals was mentioned as a good start and need to expand to social media, City Facebook (tag a person and SCC), promoting sister cities' story about the relationship each MOU anniversary. There is also a strong tie-in with the Indian Community Center and a possible sister city relationship with a city in India. Regarding local media, it was determined to contact *The Milpitas Post* for an article. It was further determined that there would not be homestays offered in 2016, primarily because the main support persons, Principal Cheryl Lawton and Assistant Principal Hilary Britton are leaving the high school at the end of this term. In September / October time frame it was decided to meet with the new high school principal to discuss the Sister Cities Program elements that rely on the administration's assistance.

### **2. City Plaza Signs**

Staff requested to provide a report at the May meeting and noted this would be a good item to include on the Council agenda on September 6, when the SCC's work plan is due to be presented.

### **3. E-Pal Project with Sister Cities**

City staff produced a video letter in house of Milpitas students to Tsukuba students. This can be shown at the next meeting.

### **4. Tsukuba City, Japan**

No new information was discussed.

### **5. Dagupan City, Philippines**

No new information was discussed.

### **6. Huizhou Municipality, China**

No new information was discussed. It was noted that a thank you letter to Mr. Saul Yeung was requested at the last meeting. School District Liaison Alisantosa stated he had full contact information and would forward this to staff. Staff will prepare a letter for the Chair's signature.

- X. Student Liaison Report** – Under this item, the SCC discussed providing a commendation to Mikayla. This position is best served as a one-year service of a junior or senior student. Staff noted that 18 students from the Digital Business Academy are interested in applying for the position. Discussion followed regarding how to narrow the field including checking for involvement in student clubs, especially the International Club. Staff will download the resumes and discuss with Chair Grilli. Chosen student(s) must apply at the City Clerk's Office.

**XI. City Council Liaison Report** – There will be a budget work session on Monday; BART is opening in 2018 in Milpitas; City is studying the possibility of a shuttle from the Mid-town Transit Area to points in Milpitas; a news grocery store will be located off of Great Mall Drive; there will be a joint City park and MUSD school in that area, and; there will be a new park this summer off of N. Milpitas Blvd. at Montague, *Bob McGuire Park*.

**XII. School District Liaison Report** – None.

**XIII. Future Agenda Items**

1. Sister City Relationships / Cultural Exchanges
  - i. Tsukuba, Japan
  - ii. Dagupan, Philippines
  - iii. Huizhou, China
2. MOU Display on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Milpitas City Hall
3. Sister City Relationship with a city in Latin America
4. Status of Seongnam City, South Korea
5. Work Plan & Council Presentation, September 6, 2016

**XII. Adjournment**

No further business was discussed. Chair Grilli requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. until the regularly meeting of April 28, 2016.

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting of May 26, 2016 to the regular meeting of June 23, 2016.

M / S: Arbaugh / Manogaran                      Ayes: All

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Stobbe  
Staff Liaison