

**CITY OF MILPITAS
SISTER CITIES COMMISSION UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

DATE OF MEETING: March 22, 2012

PLACE OF MEETING: Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Committee Meeting Room

I. ROLL

Chair Grilli called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Commissioners/Alternates Present: Arbaugh, Grilli, Hardin, Serpa, Tran, Mateo.

Commissioners Absent: Arefi, Galvan and Ortega

City Council Liaison Present: Vice Mayor McHugh

Student Liaison Present: Brenda Su

MUSD Liaison Absent

Staff Present: Clark, Stobbe

II. ALTERNATES

Alternate Hardin was seated.

III. PLEDGE

Chair Grilli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. MINUTES

MOTION to approve the Minutes of February 23, 2012.

M/S: Sepra / Arbaugh AYES: All

V. AGENDA

MOTION to approve the Agenda of March 22, 2012.

M/S: Sepra / Mateo AYES: All

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioners Recognition Event is Tuesday, April 17, 2012 in the City Hall rotunda to start at 6:00 p.m. for the welcome, 6:15 p.m. for the recognition program, and 7 p.m. for the dessert reception.

VII. PUBLIC FORUM – None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. ELECTIONS

Chair Grilli was nominated by Commissioner Arbaugh to serve as Chair of the SCC.

M/S: Arbaugh / Serpa AYES: All

Commissioner Serpa was nominated by commissioner Mateo to serve as Vice Chair of the SCC.

M/S: Mateo / Tran AYES: All

2. **PLANNING TIMEFRAMES:** Staff presented an annual calendar by month to suggest a schedule for contacting sister city representatives about upcoming visits, reviewing expenses, and purchasing gifts. By consensus, SCC accepted the calendar as a guiding document for its work.
3. **FUNDRAISING POSSIBILITIES:** Staff reported that, per the City Attorney, the SCC is an advisory group to the Milpitas City Council and restricted to that purpose. A non-profit corporation, Milpitas Sister Cities Commission, was filed in 2005 and remains on suspended status with the Secretary of State's Office. This association would operate separately from the City with its own board and bank accounts. Chair Grilli requested copies of the filing. City Attorney Mike Ogaz is scheduled to attend the April 26 meeting to further discuss the commission's options.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. **SISTER CITY GIFTS:** The SCC received a pen from an order of 50. Total order was \$520.84. Staff noted that, after potential action on an expense further on the agenda, approximately \$1,400 would be the remaining amount available to the SCC in this fiscal year. Staff also noted that she found a vendor for the twin flag lapel pins.
2. **TSUKUBA CITY, JAPAN:** Commissioner Arbaugh reported that the 15th Anniversary photo display at the Milpitas Public Library was enthusiastically received by the community and continues to show thru the March. On March 20, Mayor Esteves presented Brita Heise, president of the Milpitas Camera Club, with a commendation for her club's expert assistance with the display. The electronic student exchange is moving forward with Milpitas High School students interested to start relationships. Student Liaison Brenda Su is waiting to hear back from Tsukuba officials.
3. **HUIZHOU CITY, CHINA:** Chair Grilli noted a possible student visit in October. He is checking with the high school to determine scheduling of Spirit Week.
4. **DAGUPAN CITY, PHILIPPINES:** Commissioner Mateo reported that Ms. Maybelyn Fernandez, Majority Floor Leader of Sangguniang Panlungsod, Lungsod ng Dagupan will visit Milpitas in May. Staff liaison will coordinate interviews with City staff for the areas of Cultural Arts, Emergency Preparedness, Preschool and Recycling Programs. Chair Grilli signed a letter of invitation to Ms. Fernandez that staff will email along with a history of the Memorandums of Understanding between Milpitas and Dagupan.
5. **FIGLINE VALDARNO, ITALY:** Vice Chair Serpa reported receiving confirmation from Mayor Riccardo Nocentini that he and Mr. Daniele Raspini will visit Milpitas as part of the from May 4 – 10, 2012. Under 'Presentations' of the Special Council Meeting of May 8, 2012, Mayors Esteves and Nocentini will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between our cities. Vice Chair Serpa invited Commissioners to attend the Medici Masked Ball on Saturday, May 5 at the Double Tree Hotel in San Jose. This event is a fundraiser for the Italy Sister County Commission of Santa Clara County. Tickets are \$150 per person and include dinner and an evening of entertainment.

The SCC was asked to review the draft MOU for approval and sending to Figline Valdarno. Discussion followed including correction of two typos.

MOTION: To recommend the MOU between the Comune di Figline Valdarno and the City of Milpitas with noted correction to the Milpitas City Council for signing on May 8, 2012.

M/S: Arbaugh / Serpa AYES: All

Discussion followed regarding an approximate expense of \$852 to host the hotel stay on one room for a total of six nights. Staff noted that, should this expense be approved, approximately \$1,400 would be the remaining amount available to the SCC in this fiscal year.

MOTION: To approve the use of hotel stays for mayors of sister cities and to use SCC's available expense limit for this hotel stay.

M/S: Grilli / Arbaugh AYES: All

X. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

- The Mobile Home Park Rental Review Board met and decided there was no basis for a space rental increase at Friendly Village Mobile Home Estates. The park owner appealed to City Council and, upon review, Council upheld the Board's decision.
- The Council opted to extend the moratorium of re-zoning specific industrial and / or commercial zones to residential zones for another four and one-half months. The moratorium went into effect on March 20 and runs until August 7, 2012.
- Budget update: The \$9.2 million shortfall in the city budget: there was a reduction in Milpitas Public Library hours mostly in the early morning and it will still remain open 7 days a week; there may be eliminations of the fire works display and the Recreation Division could loose the Teen Center and Rainbow Theatre. Public Works Department employees are working with the city for alternative cost saving ideas to avoid some layoffs and or outsourcing. The Council plans on adopting a budget during the Budget Hearing of May 8.

XI. SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON REPORT – None

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Sister City Relationships & Cultural Exchanges
 - i. Huizhou City, China
 - ii. Dagupan City, Philippines
 - iii. Tsukuba City, Japan
 - iv. Figline Valdarno, Italy
2. Sister City Gifts / Expense Reports
3. Fundraising Possibilities

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Grilli adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m. The next sister cities meeting is April 26, 2012.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

M/S: Arbaugh / Serpa AYES: All

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Clark
Recording Secretary

Leslie Stobbe
Staff Liaison