

AGENDA

Sister Cities Commission

Thursday, May 28, 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: April 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. New Business

1. FRIENDSHIP CITY REQUEST FROM NAM-GU, INCHEON CITY, SOUTH KOREA

Background: Nam-Gu, Incheon City, South Korea, has submitted a "Friendship" City request with the City of Milpitas for the Sister Cities Commission review and consideration.

- Mr. David Chang, the Co-Chairman of the Korean-American Federation of Southwest States (located in Santa Clara) will present information regarding Incheon and answer questions.

Recommendation: Open for discussion – determine next steps.

IX. Old Business

2. 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. Chair Grilli and MUSD Liaison Alisantosa will research this issue.

Recommendation: Open for discussion – determine next steps. Receive updates from Chair Grilli and MUSD Liaison Alisantosa.

3. 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.
- Continue discussions regarding a possible student exchange from Huizhou to Milpitas during Spring Break.

Recommendation: Receive verbal report from Lead Commissioner Grilli.

4. DAGUPAN CITY, PHILIPPINES: STATUS REPORT ON SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP

Background:

Lead Commissioner: Mateo

- Discuss possible plans for 2009 and receive update on communications with Dagupan.
- The term of the MOU between Milpitas and Dagupan runs through June 2009.

Recommendation: Receive verbal report from Lead Commissioner Mateo.

5. TSUKUBA CITY, JAPAN: STATUS REPORT ON SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP

Background:

Lead Commissioners: Arbaugh & Tran.

- The term of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Milpitas and Tsukuba has expired.
- Staff emailed a draft MOU to the Tsukuba representative for comments on March 2, 2009 as requested by the commission. Staff received comments from Tsukuba on May 11, 2009, indicating their interest in renewing the MOU with some minor edits. Staff will review the edits with the commission before a final draft is prepared.

Recommendation: Receive verbal report from Lead Commissioners Arbaugh and Tran.

6. WESTERN EUROPEAN SISTER CITY RESEARCH STATUS REPORT

Background:

Lead Commissioners: Arefi and Arbaugh.

- 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. To date staff has not received a reply from Hochheim.

- A representative from Newry, Northern Ireland, sent an email request for information about Milpitas. Staff mailed an information packet to Newry in early April. To date staff has not received a reply from Newry.
- Vice Chair Arbaugh requested a discussion about Derby, England. He is in contact with John Forkin, Director of Marketing Derby. Receive update from Vice Chair Arbaugh.
- Vice Mayor McHugh is researching sister city opportunities in the province of Florence, Italy.
- Commissioners Arefi and Arbaugh are continuing research on the potential for other western European sister cities.

Recommendation: Receive update from Lead Commissioners Arefi and Arbaugh.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

X. SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON REPORT

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Sister City Relationships/Cultural Exchanges:
 - i. Huizhou City, China
 - ii. Dagupan City, Philippines
 - iii. Tsukuba City, Japan – Expiration of agreement
2. Western European Sister City Research

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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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.

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E-mail: mogaz@ci.milpitas.ca.gov / Fax 408/586-3030 / Phone 408/586-3040

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