

AGENDA

Sister Cities Commission

Thursday, June 25, 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: May 28, 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. Chair Grilli and MUSD Liaison Alisantosa will research this issue.

- Staff Liaison Cuciz will present an informational memo from Chair Grilli to the Youth Advisory Commission on July 9th and obtain their feedback for the commission.

Recommendation: Receive updates from Chair Grilli, MUSD Liaison Alisantosa and Staff Liaison Cuciz.

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 either October or November 2009.
- Continue discussions regarding a possible student exchange 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

- Discuss any possible plans for 2009 and receive update on communications with Dagupan.
- The term of the MOU between Milpitas and Dagupan runs through June 2009. Staff is reviewing the final draft MOU with Dagupan and plans to present the MOU renewal to the City Council on August 18, 2009.

Recommendation: Receive verbal report from Lead Commissioner Mateo.

4. 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. Comments received from Tsukuba on May 11, 2009, indicated their interest in renewing the MOU with some minor edits. Staff is working with Tsukuba on the final draft and plans to present the MOU renewal to the City Council on August 18, 2009.

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

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

Background: 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.

- Commissioner Chen volunteered to be the lead contact with Nam-gu.
- 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 Commissioner Chen.

6. WESTERN EUROPEAN SISTER CITY RESEARCH STATUS REPORT

Background:

Lead Commissioners: Arefi, Arbaugh & Serpa.

- 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. (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

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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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