

**CITY OF MILPITAS
SISTER CITIES COMMISSION MINUTES**

MINUTES: Meeting of Sister Cities Commission (SCC)
DATE OF MEETING: Thursday, February 25, 2010
PLACE OF MEETING: Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Council Chambers

I. ROLL **Chair Grilli** called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.
Commissioners / Alternates Present: Arefi, Chen, Grilli, Mateo & Serpa.
Commissioners Absent: Arbaugh, Ortega, Hardin & Tran
City Council Liaison Present: Vice Mayor McHugh
MUSD Liaison Present: Alisantosa
Staff Present: Cuciz, Clark

II. ALTERNATES Alternate Commissioner Serpa was seated.

III. PLEDGE Chair Grilli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. MINUTES **MOTION** to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2010
M/S: Serpa/Mateo ABSTAIN: Grilli
AYES: All

V. AGENDA **MOTION** to approve the Agenda for February 25, 2010
M/S: Serpa/Grilli AYES: All

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

VII. PUBLIC FORUM: None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. HUIZHOU CITY, CHINA

Chair Grilli stated that there is nothing to report at this time and no visits are planned. Grilli will communicate with Huizhou to determine if there is interest in a student delegation coming to Milpitas this fall.

2. DAGUPAN CITY, PHILIPPINES

Commissioner Mateo reminded the commission about the invitation to attend the Dagupan Bangus Festival in April. None of the commissioners are able to attend and neither is the Vice Mayor. Staff

will check with the Mayor to determine if he can attend. If he is unable to attend, staff will arrange for the Mayor to send a letter to Dagupan.

3. TSUKUBA CITY, JAPAN

Staff Liaison Cuciz received an email from Tsukuba noting that they may “not” want to have an exchange that would include a delegation and are looking for other ways to celebrate our 15-year anniversary in 2011. They are also unable to visit Milpitas in 2010. Cuciz asked for ideas from the commission to communicate back to Tsukuba. The commission was open to informational, art and other types of exchanges. An idea posed by the Vice Mayor was a photo exchange that could include a photo contest where the winning photos would be sent to Tsukuba for display, as well as having Tsukuba send photos to Milpitas. The photos would depict our city and way of life to share with Tsukuba. The contest could be in honor of the 15-year anniversary commemoration. Staff will email this information to Tsukuba for their feedback.

4. NAM-GU, INCHEON, SOUTH KOREA

Commissioner Chen has not had any contact with Nam-gu and there are currently no visits planned.

5. WESTERN EUROPEAN SISTER CITY RESEARCH STATUS REPORT

Altopascio, Italy:

Commissioner Serpa contacted Altopascio, Italy in the province of Lucca. Mayor Marchetti was presented with documentation about Milpitas to express interest in a possible sister city relationship with Altopascio. They are waiting for elections to be held in April 2010. Mayor Marchetti is willing to discuss this further after the elections. Serpa will follow-up.

Arhus, Denmark:

Commissioner Arefi reported that Arhus, Denmark is looking for a sister city per the SCI website, however, the US is ranked third in terms of their preferred country. Arhus is the second largest city in Denmark. Staff will send an email to Arhus as requested by the commission.

6. NON-VOTING STUDENT MEMBER

Staff liaison Cuciz hasn't heard back from Jenny Chen. A student member would be most beneficial when a delegation visits and there are no planned visits for 2010 at this point. MUSD Liaison Alisantosa will speak with high school clubs about possible interest in serving as a student member on the commission.

IX. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Vice Mayor McHugh reminded commissioners about the Commissioner's Brunch that will be held at Dave & Busters, on Saturday April 10, 2010, from 9am to 1pm. He hopes that all commissioners would be able to attend.

Highlights from Vice Mayor McHugh:

1). The proposed parcel tax for Milpitas schools passed 4-1 by the City Council. 2.) The city is looking at 16 city sites that have been approved for installation of solar panels. 3.) The city will also receive a grant for a project to install new energy saving windows at the Police & Public Works buildings to be installed by a local company.

X. SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON REPORT

MUSD Liaison Alisantosa voiced his appreciation to the City Council’s for their support of a proposed parcel tax to be determined by voters. He noted this would be important to help the schools, however, he stated that if this tax is passed by voters it will not entirely close the budget gap and there will still be larger class sizes.

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Sister City & Friendship Relationships/Cultural Exchanges
 - i. Huizhou City, China
 - ii. Dagupan City, PI
 - iii. Tsukuba City, Japan
 - iv. Nam-gu, Incheon, South Korea
- 2. Western European Sister City Research/Update

XII. ADJOURNMENT

No further business was discussed and Chair Grilli adjourned the meeting at 7:48p.m. until the next regularly scheduled meeting on March 25, 2010.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting.

M/S: Serpa/Grilli

YES: All

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Clark
Sister Cities Recording Secretary

Holly Cuciz
Sister Cities Liaison