

**CITY OF MILPITAS
SISTER CITIES COMMISSION MINUTES**

MINUTES: Meeting of Sister Cities Commission (SCC)
DATE OF MEETING: Thursday, April 22, 2010
PLACE OF MEETING: Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Committee Meeting room.

I. ROLL **Chair** Grilli called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.
Commissioners / Alternates Present: Arefi, Arbaugh, Chen, Grilli, Hardin, Serpa & Tran.
Commissioners Absent: Ortega & Mateo.
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 March 25, 2010

M/S: Serpa/Tran AYES: All

V. AGENDA **MOTION** to approve the Agenda for April 22, 2010

M/S: Arefi/Arbaugh AYES: All

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

VII. PUBLIC FORUM: Debra Whitlock-Lax representing MCTV Channel 26 was invited to speak at the meeting by Commissioner Tran, about the public access television station in Milpitas. She noted that commissioners and could use this station to broadcast messages to the public. MCTV is currently seeking volunteer reporters, producers, video editors & administrative workers. Future possibilities of connecting with sister cities though Skype at the broadcast station were discussed.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. HUIZHOU CITY, CHINA

Chair Grilli reported the possibility of a student delegation visit in October 2010.

2. DAGUPAN CITY, PHILIPPINES

Commissioner Mateo has nothing new to report.

3. TSUKUBA CITY, JAPAN

Staff Liaison Cuciz hasn't heard anything new; still waiting to here back about the new contact person for Tsukuba. The idea of a photo exchange for the anniversary in 2011 is still being discussed.

4. NAM-GU, INCHEON, SOUTH KOREA

Commissioner Chen has nothing new to report.

5. WESTERN EUROPEAN SISTER CITY RESEARCH STATUS REPORT

Altopascio, Italy:

Commissioner Serpa hasn't heard anything new from Italy as they are still in the process of electing new officials. She asked if the SCC should be seeking new sister city relationships, given the current budget situation. Vice Mayor McHugh feels the commission should continue exploring relationships with Western European cities.

Aarhus, Denmark:

Staff Liaison Cuciz has not received any response to date.

Karlshamm Sweden:

Vice Chair Arefi asked staff to email Karlshamm with information about Milpitas and a sister city relationship.

Darby England:

Commissioner Arbaugh has nothing new to report; no responses from Darby.

6. NON-VOTING STUDENT MEMBER

MUSD Liaison Alisantosa notified school district staff of the need for interested students to participate as a non-voting member on the commission during student exchanges.

IX. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Vice Mayor McHugh announced:

- ❖ State of the Community address was well attended.
- ❖ Commissioner's brunch was also another successful event.
- ❖ He noted that at the April 13, 2010 City Council Budget Work Session, they studied the concessions made by all of the unions, along with management staff and the City Council to help balance the budget. The Budget Hearing is scheduled for May 11, 2010. The Mayor was speaking about forming a blue ribbon committee composed of businesspersons who live in Milpitas to also help deal with budget issues and present ideas.
- ❖ Provided a brief explanation of the current redevelopment challenges to improve the downtown areas.

X. SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON REPORT

MUSD Liaison Alisantosa reported on the projected MUSD enrollment though 2019. He noted that everyone on the school board is working hard to get the proposed parcel tax passed. A rally in support of the tax will be held May 1st, at Augustine Park at 8:30 a.m.

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 7:49 p.m., until the next regularly scheduled meeting on May 27, 2010.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting.

M/S: **Grilli/Serpa**

AYES: All

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Clark
Sister Cities Recording Secretary

Holly Cuciz
Sister Cities Liaison