

**SISTER CITIES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF CLEARWATER**

July 28, 2016

Awaiting approval

Present: Chair Sallie Parks, Vice-Chair Terrence Gourdine, Board Member/Youth Representative Desaray Dilday, Board Member Pamela Gene Benton

Absent: Board Member/Councilmember Hoyt Hamilton, Board Member/CSCI Clearwater Sister Cities, Inc. Representative Candace B. Hays,

Also Present: Christopher Hubbard - Cultural Affairs Specialist, Patricia O. Sullivan - Board Reporter

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at the Long Center.

To provide continuity for research, items are in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

2 – Approval of Minutes

2.1. Approve minutes of the April 28, 2016 Sister Cities Advisory Board meeting as submitted in written summation.

Member Gourdine moved to approve minutes of the April 28, 2016 Sister Cities Advisory Board meeting as submitted in written summation. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

3 – Citizens to be Heard re Items Not on the Agenda: None.

4 – New Business

4.1. Upcoming Nagano Teacher Visit

Cultural Affairs Specialist Christopher Hubbard said the Nagano teacher will visit from October 16 to November 14, 2016. Four home stays were scheduled. Information regarding the teacher's background and school level will be distributed when received. Member Benton will determine which schools will be the best fit.

4.2. Young Ambassador Trip Update

It was stated the Young Ambassadors' group of 7 students and 2 chaperones will return from Japan on July 29, 2016. A post trip presentation and meeting were scheduled for October 18, 2016 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Long Center.

Mr. Hubbard said it was heartening that a foster child was provided the opportunity to participate in this year's trip.

4.3. Update of Governing Documents

Mr. Hubbard said the board's recommendation to add a City resident member to the board and drop the City residency requirement for the Youth Member would be submitted to the City Council.

It was stated a sentiment expressed during last year's delegation visit to Nagano was that the City should provide more financial support to the Sister Cities program.

Mr. Hubbard said on August 4, 2016, he will make a presentation at the City Council Special Budget Meeting to expand the program to include a scholarship and reinstatement of the high school program. Board members were welcomed to forward supporting comments to the Council. In response to a question, Mr. Hubbard said a scholarship for the high school program would need to come up through the program.

5 – Old Business

Member Benton shared a note from Nagano expressing gratitude and complimenting Pinellas County teachers who traveled to Nagano this summer. Due to changes in the 2016/17 school schedule, the teachers only stayed 3 weeks. It was stated the letter exhibited the excellent relationship between the Sister Cities.

6 – Director's Report

Mr. Hubbard will invite the Nagano teacher to the next Sister Cities meeting, to be held at City Hall. All future Sister Cities meeting will be in City Council Chambers on the 3rd floor of City Hall.

7 – Board Members to be Heard: None

8 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Chair - Sister Cities Advisory Board

Attest:

Board Reporter