

City of Clearwater

*City Hall
112 S. Osceola Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33756*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 27, 2017

4:00 PM

Council Chambers

Sister Cities Advisory Board

Roll Call

Present 5 - Chair Sallie Parks, Vice Chair Terrence Gourdine, Board Member Hoyt Hamilton, Board Member Candace Hays, and Board Member Pamela Gene Benton

Absent 1 - Board Member Desaray Dilday

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

Awaiting approval

1. Call To Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall.

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 from January 26, 2017 meeting

Member Benton moved to approve minutes of the January 26, 2017 Sister Cities Advisory Board meeting as submitted in written summation. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

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

4. New Business Items

4.1 Staff update on High School Exchange

Cultural Affairs Specialist Christopher Hubbard said he was impressed with the high caliber of students who applied for the High School exchange program; 4 students were chosen. Linda Damsky will chaperone. Students' parents also attended each orientation meeting; 3 more were planned. Airline tickets were booked for the June 26 departure and July 5, 2017 return.

Mr. Hubbard reviewed preparatory activities. The students will visit 2 high schools and an international exchange bazaar in Nagano where they will perform a skit. Names of the schools will be provided soon. The students will address the City Council on June 15, 2017 and after they return. The students also will present their experiences at International Day on February 24, 2018.

5. Old Business Item: None.

6. Director's Report

Board Member Hays, Clearwater Sister Cities, Inc. Representative, said the Young Ambassador students had attended orientations in preparation for the June 6 – 21, 2017 trip to Japan. She requested the students be scheduled to address City Council upon their return. Discussions were planned to determine if it would be more economical for Young Ambassador and High School Exchange students to travel together.

At its recent CSCI annual meeting, she said founding member Grant Raulerson was presented a certificate in appreciation for his more than 58 years of service to CSCI.

Board Member Hays suggested that Member Gourdine work with the CSCI board re his request for the City to provide a Young Ambassador scholarship.

7. Board Members to be Heard

Member Gourdine said his grandson, a Young Ambassador participant, was recognized by the City of Clearwater as Sportsman of the Year.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Attest:

Chair - Sister Cities Advisory Board

Board Reporter