



# Village of Hanover Park Administration

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**VILLAGE CLERK**  
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JON KUNKEL  
HERB PORTER  
RICK ROBERTS  
EDWARD J. ZIMEL, JR.

**VILLAGE MANAGER**  
JULIANA A. MALLER

## VILLAGE OF HANOVER PARK

### SISTER CITIES Committee of the Whole

**Hanover Park Police Headquarters – Community Room**  
**2011 Lake Street – Hanover Park, IL 60133**  
**Tuesday, October 13, 2015**  
**7:00 p.m.**

### MINUTES

#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL:**

Chair Linda McCance Packham called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: Linda McCance Packham, Herb Porter, Arnulfo Flores (7:30 arrival), Adelaide Grant-Acquah, Frank Grant-Acquah, Mary Harrison (7:22 arrival), Gladys Lawson (7:14 arrival), Gustavo Pineda, Maria Pineda,

**ABSENT:** Committee Members: Pamela Fowler,

**ALSO PRESENT:** Robert Packham, Sandra Amoako Packham, Interim Staff Liaison Katherine Perez

#### 2. **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Maria Pineda to accept agenda. Second by Frank Grant-Acquah. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

#### 3. **PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:**

None

#### 4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Herb Porter to approve minutes of the July 21, 2015 meeting. Second by Frank Grant-Acquah. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried. No discussion.

#### 5. **ACTION ITEMS:**

5-a. Budget Update – Calendar Year 2016. The budget process is underway with a board budget workshop set for October 15<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion about the value of sending additional representatives to the 2016 international Sister Cities conference instead of just the two representatives that were allotted for in 2016 budget request. Herb and

Frank attended the 2015 international conference held over the summer in Minneapolis. Although they fully participated to the extent possible, they felt that more could have been gained had there been additional Hanover Park representatives present to take part in the training and workshops that were available. Herb said that he would make inquiry at the October 15<sup>th</sup> budget workshop about the availability of additional money that could be used to pay the registration fees for four additional representatives to attend the 2016 international conference and possibly to help subsidize travel-related expense such as air fare or hotel. Herb also pointed out that the committee would need to be involved in fundraising activities.

Although the registration fees are not negotiable, Chair Linda advised that there are ways to keep the cost of attendance down such as room-sharing or staying with relatives. Also, transportation, hotel and meal expense can be taken as a charitable deduction tax write-off. Herb noted that economical airfares can be found, citing that Southwest Airlines has offered roundtrip airfares to Washington, DC in the \$198 range.

- 5-b. Recap – Trip to Cape Coast. Chair Linda and Frank traveled to Cape Coast in late August. They met with the new Mayor who accompanied them to the hospital for a ceremony marking the completion of the playroom. The Hanover Park delegation also visited the regional police station to view the outdoor shelter that was completed and will be used by domestic violence victims when they're waiting to speak with police personnel. A stop was also made at Cape Coast School for the Deaf which houses an on-campus hearing assessment center supported by the Lions Club and an academic and vocational school for students who are deaf or blind. While visiting Cape Coast School for the Deaf and speaking with the Head Master, it was learned that funds to which the school is entitled are not getting through because the Ministry of Education is not releasing funding due to "revenue constraints." The Hanover Park delegation arranged for some funds to be gathered and used to provide operating expenses for a week. Because of the good that is done and the number students that are helped, consideration could be given to supporting the school as a project.
- 5-c. Valparaiso Sister Cities – Five Year Anniversary Celebration – November 19 at 6:00 p.m. (Council Chambers). The Fifth Anniversary will be marked with a cake and coffee reception on 11/19/15 to coincide with a board meeting at which the Mayor will read a proclamation. Members of the Federación de Zacatecanos will be invited. There will be mention of the anniversary in the next edition of the Hi-Lighter. Of note, one of the accomplishments of the Hanover Park-Valparaiso relationship is that scholarships have been provided to a grade school which accommodates approximately 20 students with special needs. Chair Linda has a meeting scheduled with the Village Manager on 10/19.

**6. TOWNHALL SESSION:**  
None.

**7. OLD BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):**

7-a. "Crowd Funding" Update. Raising money will be necessary in order for the proposed trip to Ghana to become a reality. It will show a good-faith effort by the committee and demonstrate that it's not totally reliant on the board. There are several crowd funding platforms out there, and each one takes a percentage of what is raised, usually in the 8-12% range. "Go Fund Me" is one of the platforms, and it allows for charitable groups to raise money. They provide the website, and the committee would need to provide the content (photos, video, narrative). We would determine the amount to be raised and the length of time the campaign would run, with there being no deadline, goal requirements or penalty for not reaching the goal. Crowd funding opportunities and platforms will continue being explored. It's anticipated that the committee could get something going in the first quarter of 2016. Herb offered that his son would be able to edit the video and set it to music.

It was determined that a workshop would be scheduled for November 3, 2015 at which development of a new Sister Cities brochure and activities related to a Black History Month event will be discussed.

7-b. Pen Pal & Student Exchanges. At the last Valparaiso sub-committee meeting, there was discussion about bringing students here for an exchange. Chair Linda asked if there was interest in forming an ad hoc committee to explore a student exchange. This is also something that could be launched on Go Fund Me.

**8. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):**

8-a. Application to Sister Cities International – Lou Wozner Award. Linda advised that applications will be due in April.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Adelaide Grant-Acquah to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. Second by Gladys Lawson. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes recorded and transcribed by:

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Katherine Perez, Interim Staff Liaison

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Linda McCance Packham  
Chair, Hanover Park Sister Cities Committee