

**Sister Cities Committee**  
**July 13, 2010**  
**Workshop Notes**

**Members in Attendance:** Chairperson Linda McCance Packham, Arnulfo Flores, Pamela Fowler, Juan Silva, Maria Pineda. Staff Liaison Katherine Perez.

**Also Present:** Mayor Rod Craig, Board Liaison Eira Corral, Robert Packham, Mrs. Silva.

A quorum was not present. The Chair announced that a workshop would be held instead of a meeting.

**Call to Order**

The workshop was called to order at 7:37 p.m.

**Acceptance of Agenda**

No quorum.

**Acceptance of Minutes**

No quorum.

Frank Grant-Acquah participated in the workshop by phone beginning at approximately 7:45 p.m.

**Valparaiso Activities**

Prior to the workshop being called to order, Maria advised that Zacatecan Federation events are taking place this weekend (July 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>) to include a breakfast, picnic and pageant/banquet. The picnic will take place on Saturday in Maywood at a park near First Avenue & Roosevelt Road. Maria advised that Valparaiso MVP Laura Isela Ruiz Gonzalez will be visiting the area in order to take part in these activities and that she is expected to arrive on Thursday, 7/15, but her itinerary is not yet confirmed. Maria noted that the local Valparaiso organizers have advised that our proposed dates for the visit (September 7-10, 2010) are agreeable to them.

Clerk Corral advised that she had initiated a call to Areadna Ponce Alva in Valparaiso who is one of the local organizers and is employed at the Migrant Relations Office. It was learned that the response letter from the Valparaiso Mayor and organizers will be delivered in person over the course of time they are in the area to attend the Federation activities. It was indicated that the Valparaiso response letter contains their confirmation to receive the Hanover Park travel delegation along with their request to have a discussion about the expectations of the visit and proposed activities. Ms. Ponce Alva will be arriving on Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, and although it's too soon for them to commit to a time, they request to know when they can meet regarding the Hanover Park travel delegation's visit in Valparaiso. Ms. Ponce Alva will be in the area for approximately one week and for at least a portion of that time she will be staying in McHenry, Illinois.

Clerk Corral stated that because this will be a public meeting, a 48-hour notice would need to be published. She advised that Ms. Ponce Alva would be contacting her on Wednesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> to confirm her travel itinerary and to coordinate a time for the meeting. The Clerk made inquiry about availability of SC committee members to possibly meet on Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.;

Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.; or Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.; and she said the meeting could be held in Room 212.

Chair Linda requested input regarding our expectations for the visit. In addition to signing the letter of agreement, it is believed that it would be beneficial to visit a school, a manufacturing business, a farm, a police facility, a hospital, a fire station, a military facility, a service club and government offices. A tour of the colonial architecture would also be of interest. Arnulfo suggested that visits also be made at projects with which the Federation has been involved. Other issues to be addressed at the planning meeting include confirmation of surface transportation arrangements and recommendations for lodging, currency preference (cash, credit card or travelers checks) and appropriate attire.

Chair Linda asked if there are any national or religious holidays that take place in September. The local Independence Day is celebrated on September 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>.

Pamela made inquiry about whether or not there is a system in place to address domestic violence (laws, shelters, services, etc.). Although there are laws in place, there are issues within the family and community which can determine what is culturally acceptable.

The travel delegation will consist of the following people who have confirmed their participation: Mayor Rod Craig, Chair Linda McCance Packham, Clerk Eira Corral, Committee Members Arnulfo Flores, Maria Pineda and Gustafo Pineda. Since it is known that the dates of the Valparaiso visit are acceptable, appropriate flight reservations will need to be made as soon as possible. (Arnulfo will be driving.) Additionally, points to include in the Friendship letter and presentation gift selections need to be finalized. Chair Linda inquired about the availability of a Village flag for presentation during the visit, and Clerk Corral advised that one could be obtained for that purpose.

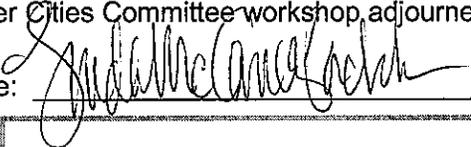
**International Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico – July 29-31, 2010**

Frank will represent Hanover Park at the Sister Cities International Conference later this month. In the week following the International Conference, another event will be held in Arkansas that will be hosted by the Africa Global Sister Cities Foundation; it will focus on agricultural issues. Robert Packham will be in attendance at the Arkansas meeting and it's anticipated that African delegations who attended the International Conference will thereafter travel to Arkansas to participate there.

**New Business**

Frank invited everyone to attend the Ghanafest on Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at Washington Park. Gates open at 11:00 a.m. and admission is \$5 for adults.

The Sister Cities Committee workshop adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Signature: 

Date: 12 October 2010