

Sister Cities Committee

March 10, 2009

Minutes

Members in Attendance: Chairperson Linda McCance Packham, Adelaide Grant-Acquah, Frank Grant-Acquah, Pamela Fowler, Trustee Liaison Robert Packham. Staff Liaison Kim Benedix.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM

Acceptance of Agenda:

Motion made by Frank and seconded by Pamela to accept the agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion made by Frank and seconded by Adelaide to accept the minutes of the February 10, 2009 meeting as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

April Convention:

Linda reviewed the schedule for the April State Sister City Convention to be held in Schaumburg April 17th and 18th. Concerns were expressed about the high cost of the registration fees. Members anticipating on attending the event to-date include: Frank Grant Acquah, Adelaide Grant Acquah, Linda Packham, Pamela Fowler and Trustee Robert Packham. The Village pays for committee members' registration fees. Need to contact Mary Harrison, Gladys Lawson and Ruth Ayukesong-Bokwe to see if they are interested in attending the convention.

International Convention:

The 2009 International Convention is scheduled for July in Belfast, Ireland. Frank is unable to attend as the date coincides with Chicago's Ghanafest. He will be attending Ghanafest. Linda inquired whether any other committee member would like to attend the Conference. The Village pays registration fees only. The US African Sister Cities Convention is scheduled in July of 2009 to be held in Morocco. Next year's convention will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Illinois Sister City State Website

The Illinois Sister City Website has been redesigned. Groups are encouraged to post information about local events and photos of our Sister City to the site. The address is www.illinoissistercities.org.

Hanover Park Web Site – Sister City Section

Hanover Park's web site is continually being updated. It was recommended an outline be developed containing information the committee would like posted to the site. Ideas included: information on the Hanover Park Primary School, our approach to domestic violence, HiLighter articles, membership brochure, committee interest application, streaming video of the recent trip to Ghana and the Wheelchairs for Peace video. Also links to the central region website, state and international sister city sites. Contact Kim if you have additional ideas or suggestions for posting to the Village's site.

New Business:

Linda and Frank participated in a conference call with David Granville of Buffalo, NY. Buffalo's sister city is Cape Coast, Ghana. Buffalo established a relationship with Cape Coast in the early 1990's but interest waned over the years. Buffalo would like to renew their relationship. It would be beneficial for Hanover Park and Buffalo to work together to help their common sister city. To that end, the trip originally planned for August/September will be rescheduled to November in order to send a delegation from Hanover Park and Buffalo to attend the African Global Sister Cities Foundation convention scheduled November 4 – 7, 2009 in Accra. Traveling in November also offers a savings of approximately \$700 - \$800 as it is off-peak season.

Hanover Highlands Pen Pal Program

Hanover Highlands 2nd grade (and some 3rd grade) class members wrote pen pal letters to the Hanover Park Primary School. The Principal of Hanover Highlands requested Sister City Committee members visit the school to discuss Cape Coast Ghana and the relationship we have with the Hanover Park Primary School. Committee members are invited to attend and participate. The meeting will take place within the next couple of weeks.

Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment made by Frank, seconded by Pamela. All ayes. Motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM

Minutes Approved:

Signature:  Date: 4/14/09