



Village of Hanover Park Administration

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JULIANA A. MALLER

VILLAGE OF HANOVER PARK

SISTER CITIES Committee of the Whole Meeting

Hanover Park Police Headquarters – Community Room
2011 Lake St - Hanover Park, IL 60133
Tuesday, July 08, 2014
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER–ROLL CALL:**

Chair Linda McCance Packham called the meeting to order at 7:26 pm.

PRESENT: Committee Linda McCance Packham, Arnulfo Flores,
Members: Adelaide Grant-Acquah, Frank Grant-Acquah,
Mary Harrison, Priscilla Oppong Ntiamoah
ABSENT: Committee Pamela Fowler, Gladys Lawson, Maria Pinèda,
Members: Gustavo Pinèda
ALSO PRESENT: Village Trustee James Kemper
Staff Liaisons Kathleen Arnold

2. **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Adelaide Grant - Acquah to accept the agenda. Second by Arnulfo Flores.
Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

3. **PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:**

No reports or presentations.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Frank Grant-Acquah to approve minutes of the April 8, 2014 meeting.
Second by Priscilla Oppong Ntiamoah. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

5. **ACTION ITEMS:**

5-a. Budget recommendations:
Linda McCance Packham started the discussion by explaining the Village of
Hanover Park has moved from a Fiscal Year to a Calendar Year budget. So for

the FY2015 Sister Cities Committee the budget will cover January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015.

Next item discussed was the Sister Cities Committee Organizational Chart to be submitted with the new budget request. Linda McCance Packham felt the Village Manager should be moved directly under the President and Board of Trustees and then the Staff Liaison with the Sister Cities Committee last.

(Revised organization chart attached).

Followed by a discussion on line by line budget request expenditures:

The fixed costs will remain the same for Office Supplies and Postage. The Membership Subscriptions will increase by \$5.00 for the Illinois State Association Dues with all others remaining the same.

Schools/Meetings/Conferences will change as follows: For the International Conference the committee would like to increase the funding to include two members attending to represent both Sister Cities Cape Coast and Valparaiso so the budgeted amount would change from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00. The conference only pays for registration but Frank Grant- Acquah asked if additional funds could be made available to attend special events such as Mayors Reception or the Lou Wozar Annual Awards dinner. Linda McCance Packham said Frank Grant-Acquah should attend whatever events he felt would be important and submit his receipts at our next meeting for approval by the Committee.

The amount for the State Conference will be reduced from 12 members attending to 7 to free up additional funds to increase the amount for the International Conference.

Frank Grant-Acquah said the State Conference next year will be in Naperville. The other two events US – Mexico Conference and African Global Sister Cities Conference will remain the same. The Committee asked if they could reallocate funds for one event for another if not used within a budget year and also if they are restricted to spending levels for certain categories. Trustee Kemper will contact the Village Manager and/or Head of Finance to see what the options are for using money for other purposes and if all the funds requested are not used does it roll over or go back to the General Fund. He will discuss at the Special Budget meeting to be held shortly.

Special Events: Adelaide Grant – Acquah suggested increasing the scholarship money for both Cape Coast and Valparaiso to \$1,000.00 each. She would like consideration given for support to children who show leadership potential; who knows who may someday become president of their country? All were in agreement and Trustee Kemper said to submit an increase for Scholarships.

The funds requested for Hanover Park Primary School and the Receptions for Dignitaries remain the same. Linda McCance Packham expressed the need for

both schools to do a better job on detailing how the donations have helped their youngsters and school. We currently only receive a "Thank You" letter. Maybe the committee can see what other organizations are doing to help. Such as U46 sends Elgin teachers to Cape Coast. Another person who might be able to assist is Phyllis Arthur Simpson and an organization called Two Pennies Ministries (www.twopenniesministries.com) who raise funds for educators in the primary grades and encourage reading. Maybe the Hanover Park Sister Cities could donate books for Africa. Also discussed the possibility of expanding donations to another school but it is important to keep good relationships with current school. Priscilla Oppong Ntiamoah asked where the scholarship money goes. Linda McCance Packham stated it goes to schools to distribute as the schools feel best needed. For example Valparaiso uses for paper supplies for children who are more financially challenged and Cape Coast gives to one or two youngsters to help with term fees. Goals and Objectives were not discussed at this meeting.

- 5-b. Attendance at Sister Cities International Convention – San Jose, CA July 31 – August 2.
Adelaide Grant-Acquah felt Maria Pinèda should also attend this year's event so both Sister Cities will be represented. Linda McCance Packham will contact Maria Pinèda to see if she can attend and Trustee Kemper will ask the Village Manager to see if funds can be used from other expenditures to cover the cost of her registration.
- 5-c. "Give – Away" items for January 2015 Awards Reception
Arnulfo Flores will speak to Gustavo Pineda regarding the factory that has been recently established in Valparaiso to give employment to leather workers, pottery makers and other artisans.
- 5-d. May 9th event at Mexican Consulate
This event was for Sister Cities who had affiliations in the state of Illinois. Per Linda McCance Packham it was a very nice event with a showcase for a Mexican Artist, a three piece combo band and the food was quite tasty. The host Carlos Jimenez Marcias presented a piece of art to Gabriela Barroso, Consulate General of Mexico. The members who attended learned a bit of history of our friends in Mexico who fended off the French and saved us from being two countries. The General was very gracious and it was a very pleasant evening.

6. **TOWNHALL SESSION:**

None.

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

Pen Pal Program: No more activities to report at this time as school is out for the summer. Maria Pinèda is in charge and they can send the letters by bus so they have a little more control.

Zacatecanos Festival: The festival is held in Melrose Park on July 19th and 20th.

Arnulfo Flores will let us know if the Mayor will attend.

Mfantseman Association of North America Conference: Frank Grant-Acquah said the conference is here in Chicago on July 19th – 20th.

Ghanafest: Frank Grant-Acquah said the fest will be held on July 26th and they have reduced the price to \$10.00. Hoping for warmer weather this fest as it was very cold last year.

St. Ansgar Parade: Linda McCance Packham believes the date is Saturday, September 13th but not sure date is set. Sister Cities is interested in having space in the parade and possibly riding in a Village car. Trustee Kemper will talk to the Mayor and see if that is possible and also having a Sister Cities Banner.

Mexican Independence Day Celebration at Hanover Park – Park District: Linda McCance Packham would like to share a booth with the Park District can we find out who to contact and what is required to do so. Believe the event to be Friday, September 12th. The staff liaison will send an email to Community Development – Katie Bowman to request information.

Potential trip to Valparaiso: Trustee Kemper would like the cost to work into the budget to attend this event to include: Air fare, ground transportation, food and lodging.

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

Adelaide Grant-Acquah informed us there will be a Health Fair on Saturday, July 12th at the Fire Station #1. Lt. Jasper is in charge. They will have 5-6 vendors in attendance. Such as the Lions will have sight and hearing testing, Life Source for blood donations, Township Services for blood pressure and glucose testing. The Library will be collecting canned goods for the food pantry. The Fire Department will provide car seat safety demonstrations if you drive your car into the bay area.

Football – Friendly matches with youth teams.

The local representative of the Zacatecas State Governor, Elizabeth Marquez – Youth Soccer program that funds matches between Mexican youth and United States youth. MWRD – have fields to allocate for this program looking for a Non-Profit to head before releasing. Per Trustee Kemper the Village of Hanover Park is considering the

area near Hanover Highland School for one of the soccer fields. St. Ansgar has a soccer league and they play with other parishes. Trustee Kemper will get more details from the Mayor.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Adelaide Grant-Acquah to adjourn at 8:48 pm. Second by Mary Harrison.
Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes recorded and transcribed by:



Kathleen Arnold
Staff Liaison



Linda McCance Packham
Chair, Hanover Park Sister Cities Committee