

PASADENA SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting of March 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Michael Warner in the Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall at 6:10 pm President Fred Alcantar jr. and Vice President Marcia Montez, were not available.

Members Present: Boualem Boussel, Taliba Carr, Ofelia Cavazos-Edmondson, Elisia Farmer, Angie Gomez, Swarna Gunaratne, Aeshea Jayasinghe, Helen Kouyoumdjian, Ross Mc Connell, Sabrina Minjares, Silva Ohanian, Rosalinda (ST) Schiess, Tamara Silver, Michael Warner, Cathy Wei (15). **New Members:** Joseph Padmini, Senani Abey, Kanthi De Silva. (3).

Guest: Jenson Hu, president of Global club at PCC (1).

1) Approved Minutes: 21 March 2019 –Motion by Angie, 2nd Ross; Passed.

2) Treasurer's report: Approved expenditures: Up to \$700 for Canvas Tote Bags – Motion by Ross, 2nd Boualem; Passed. Up to \$150 for Senegal/ Us flag pins – Motion by Ofelia; 2nd Tamara; Passed. \$28.38 to Michael Warner for Paper goods for Annual Meeting in December 2018 – Motion by Ofelia; 2nd Cathy; Passed.

3) Committee Reports:

a. Japan – No Report;

b. Armenia - No Report;

c. China (Cathy Wei) – Mr. Shaofeng Wang, who was the District Mayor of Xicheng, has promoted to a new position: Secretary of Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area Committee of the CPC. He invited us to visit him and discuss the possible cooperation. Xicheng government will keep us informed when the new Mayor is announced. Taichi-Beijing 2019 International Health-building Exchange will be held from May 27th to May 31th, 2019. Xicheng invites PSCC to form a group to attend this event. The Organizing Committee will cover cost for 10 (or less) people from a team including hotel accommodation, meals and local transportation during the event (but excluding the international traveling cost).

d. Finland (Tamara Silver) – The 5 Finnish students are here Tuesday, April 23- Tuesday, April 30. with two teachers. They plan to go to JPL, Mt. Wilson Observatory, Caltech, and the California Science Center where they will spend time viewing the space shuttle as well as the other exhibits, go to the La Brea Tar Pits, and attend a few classes with Poly students. They will stay with families that have high school aged children.

e. Germany (Ross McConnell) – Two students have been chosen to go to Ludwigshafen this summer. They are Sabrina Minjares and Isabelle Haik; both are lovely, accomplished young women who will represent Pasadena very well. Their information has been emailed to Alina Reinhard and Andreas Bauer of the Ludwigshafen Sister Cities team. The next weeks will be spent determining the timing of the trips, internships and housing. We are very excited to have these two young women become part of Sister Cities.

Michael Warner has secured an internship for Kyra Krall; our incoming intern from Germany She will work at City Hall in the office of Eric Dysart. Kyra was the translator for Mayor Tornek last summer during the festivities in Ludwigshafen and also speaks Chinese fluently. We will be reaching out very soon to secure housing for Kyra. Please let Maureen or Ross know if you are interested in participating.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephan Reinhard will visit Pasadena over Easter week. Stephan is the chair of the Ludwigshafen Sister Cities program and has been most gracious to us in recent visits. We are working on a gathering for Saturday, April 20 and will share details as the time approaches.

f. Africa (Senegal) (Boualem Bousseloub) – The priority of our subcommittee continues to be the visit by the delegation from Dakar-Plateau, our selected sister city, led by its mayor, Mr. Alioune Ndoye. At the request of Mayor Tornek a formal invitation was extending to Mrs. Alioune Ndoye, First Lady of Dakar-Plateau. The invitation was accepted by Mayor Ndoye who included his spouse in a delegation totaling eight members. The trip is now planned for June 14-22, 2019 to coincide with the first soccer game of 2019 CONCACAF Gold Cup at the Rose Bowl on June 15. Mayor Ndoye is a great fan of soccer. The subcommittee's 12 working groups have been meeting per their own schedule and agenda while reporting at a weekly committee meeting.

g. Ad Hoc Committee Sri Lanka (William Lowery) – By Senani Abey For William Lowery the appointed Chair. Reported – No Email to include in the minutes.

See page two.

h. Student Coordinator (Maggie Gihanian) – would like to thank the PSCC committee members and Board members. Marcia Montez, Vice President, you're the pillar of our organization, Fred Alcantar, our president thanks for receiving our students and taking their pictures. Special thanks to Tamara who relentlessly works towards our mission in recruiting qualified students. Thank you Maureen and Ross who strive to accommodate our students with host families. Thank you for all committee members in attendance who took time from your busy schedule in participating in the student exchange interviews. 6 students were interviewed and 5 are going - Jade Roman from Marshall to Armenia; Hannah Gray from Marshall to Finland; Megan Kelleher from POLY to Finland; Isabelle Haik from PCC to Germany; Sabrina Minijara from PCC to Germany. Special thanks to Angie Gomez, our honorary Armenia member who works relentlessly behind the scene to find host families in Armenia.

4) **SoCal / SCI:** Regional Meeting was held in Laguna Beach on 9 March 2019. SCI Annual Conference 17 to 19 July 2019 in Houston, TX.

5) Old business:

- a. 1 April 9am we have the Central Library Display cases reserved we plan to display all 6 sister cities. Checking on if we have all display cases in Library.
- b. Talked about the need to set a date for this year's Annual Meeting. Suggestions of 23 or 24 November or 7 or 14 December. - Tabled to next month's meeting for a decision.
- c. Summer BBQ tentative set for 3 August 2019.

6) New Business:

New Business: The Languages Division of Pasadena City College invites all PSCC committees to participate in "2019 International Fair." This event will be held at Quad, PCC from 11:00am to 2:00pm, May 9 (Thursdays). 2 tables will be available for the possible displays. 1 more table will be provided for the Armenia and German programs. Flyer and more information will be announced in April's meeting.

Next PSCC Meeting: 18 April 2019 – Same location 984 East Locust Street; Pasadena

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

By Michael Warner for Olivia Bueno, Secretary