

# PASADENA SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of Zoom Meeting of September 17, 2020

The Zoom meeting was called to order by President Michael Warner 6:07 pm

**Vice President Marcia Montez for Membership:** New members , Kevin Muhlbach, as of 25 August; Marguerite Matuzola & Jamie Wright, as of 2 July and Yolande Ngom-Torin as of 1 June; we have 64 Regular Dues Paying and 4 students. Quorum for Meeting to vote is 20% of current Membership thus (13) are needed.

**Members Present:** Boualem Bousseloub, Carla Boykin, Olivia Bueno, Taliba Carr, Ofelia Edmondson, Margarite Gihanian, Angie Gomez, Taleen Hindoyan, Maureen & Ross McConnell, Marcia Montez, Avery Redfearn (ST), Joan Reyes, Tamara Silver, Laura Terry, Isabelle Warner, and Michael Warner. (17 + 1 student.)

**Guest:** Fernando and Anna Del Rio (2)

**Minutes:** from March and July canceled meetings and 20 August Zoom meeting – approval motion by Angie Gomez, second by Olivia Bueno; passed as submitted.

Pending are minutes of Zoom Meetings 16 April, 21 May, & 18 June.

**Treasurer's report:** Fred Alcantar, Absent- President indicated report was Emailed to board members.

## Committee Reports:

**a. Senegal** – Boualem Bousseloub, The monthly meeting was held on Thursdays September 10 via Zoom. It was in two parts. The first part dedicated to the subcommittee meeting lasted 30 minutes. It included the introduction of two new members among which the new Secretary, Catalina Combs, a freelance writer. Then the PanAfrican Market and Festival Project announced it is having a special Zoom program on Saturday September 19 from 4:00 to 5:00 pm: *Dakar-Plateau and Africans in the Diaspora, an Online Cultural Experience* A flyer will be sent with the zoom information. The second part was the kick-off for the newly created Speaker Series with a presentation by Dr. Donald E. Grant Jr., from Pacific Oaks College, entitled: *Sister Cities: Breaking Historical Cycles by Building Bridges* The zoom presentation was attended by 68 people some of which from Northern California (Sacramento and Concord) and even possibly from the East Coast.

**b. Germany** – **Olivia Bueno** - On Thursday, September 10, Angie Gomez, Maureen McConnell, Ross McConnell, Olivia Bueno, and (temporarily) Michael Warner met via a ZOOM-Meeting with representatives from Freundeskreis -Ludwigshafen Pasadena e.v. Stephan and Alina Reinhold, Lars Entemann, Katharina, Beate and Frank Vorweiler, The meeting was very productive. It gave us the opportunity to not only catch up and see how all are doing but brainstorm some ideas to move ahead with the lockdowns in both countries. We found out that both sister cities average about 20 participants during ZOOM monthly meetings. And that ZOOM Meetings are very helpful and could be used for the Student Exchange interview process or for the parents of candidates to get face to face info from both city's programs. Since the German Student Exchange is very challenging, Olivia Bueno offered German language and culture lessons, via ZOOM, for future selected exchange students. Candidates should have some German knowledge and Pasadena City College offers free German language classes to High

School students. Also, Lars Entemann offered Olivia help to participate via ZOOM-Meetings to either promote the German Subcommittee or/and help participants practice German before they leave for Ludwigshafen. Alina Reinhold emailed that she was contacted by a German newscast asking for someone to interview regarding the fires in California. Maureen McConnell will be doing the interview tomorrow. Finally, we plan on continuing these ZOOM-Meetings to not only keep in contact but brainstorm how to keep our sister cities active and thriving during the lockdowns.

**c. Finland – Tamara Silver** - The students might likely come to Pasadena Fall 2021. Do Not know if we can send our Students to Finland Summer 2021 due to Virus situation.

**d. China – Ofelia Edmondson - No Report**

**e. Japan – Johnny Kamon , Absent - No Report**

**f. Armenia – Taleen Hindoyan - No Report**

**g. Student Coordinator – Isabelle Warner** – Due to Covid Lockdown there is no strong evidence that more students want to apply to travel abroad for summer 2021. Perhaps Zoom Calls are the way to reach out.

**h. So Cal – Carla Boykin** – SCI SoCal Chapter to have quarterly Zoom meeting sometime in October. She is recruiting College and Youth to participate in the SoCal Zoom Call for Saturday Feb. 06, 2021.

**Old Business:**

**Holiday Party Committee 2020:** Marguerite Hougasian decided on Raffi Restaruant east end of Pasadena for Sunday January 10, 2021 hopefully the lockdown will be over with that we can eat inside. President for Fred Alcantar Motions that PSCC pay \$20 of the Cost of \$35 each person, Second by Laura Terry & Ofelia Edmondson. **THUS Dues paid Members for 2021 will pay \$15 each,** and any one not a member pays the full \$35. Majority in Attendance Approved with One Abstention. Menu will follow.

**Bylaw review was continued:** went page by page starting page 9 #17. Completed the review and the majority approved the edited Bylaws. They will be put forward to All Membership which will include a ballot. The membership must return the ballot by 5 November. The results will be counted by the executive committee and the results will be announced at the November Meeting. They need to be approved by 2/3 of Membership.

**New Business:** Brief Discussion on topics Instagram, Video Tour of Pasadena, PSCC Yard Signs and the President will announce the Nomination Committee at the October Meeting.

**Announcements: Next PSCC Meeting: 15 October 2020 (Most likely a Zoom Meeting)**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted, Angie Gomez, Secretary Corrected by Michael Warner, President and Marcia Montez, Vice President