

**Village of Hoffman Estates
Sister Cities Commission
Minutes
Wednesday, June 21, 2023**

Members in Attendance

Lillian Mosier, Chair
Jill Wood-Naatz, Vice Chair
Jeff Howard
Marcia Frank
Terri Lamberti
Bob Dohn
Cindy Ruszay
Ken Campbell
Lisa Christie
Emmanuel Etgar
Fanja Raelijaona-Michel

Members Absent

Robin Jacobi
Anita Flanagan
Brianna Yarwood
Lily Rudnick
Melissa Marscin

Staff Liaison in Attendance

Debbie Schoop

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Lillian Mosier called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Two changes were made to the minutes. Approval of previous minutes was April 12, not March 12, and Bob Dohn's name was misspelled.

Motion by Marcia Frank, seconded by Ken Campbell, to approve the minutes of April 12, 2023. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Lillian welcomed our two new members and they introduced themselves. They are Fanja Michel and Emmanuel Etgar. The Commission welcomed them to the Commission and they both speak fluent French.

Lillian thanked Jeff Howard for preparing the private gourmet dinner for 9 guests in Gurnee. He is grateful to Robin for assisting.

Motion by Jeff Howard, seconded by Fanja Raelijaona-Michel, to give Robin Jacobi \$50 for travel and for her efforts for many hours at the dinner. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

A potluck will be held on Sunday, June 25, at 4:00 p.m. at David and Cheryl Rogan's home. There are 24 members and guests signed up to attend.

Lillian offered thanks to Bob, Lisa, Jill, Robin, and Ken for attending Unity Day at the village hall on June 3. A luncheon and entertainment were provided. Lillian was asked to say a few words about our commission and our activities. She suggested that perhaps Sister Cities could be represented in a different way next year.

5. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Deb Schoop reported that name badges will be prepared for our new members to wear at our events. Lillian Mosier, Anita Flanagan, Brianna Yarwood, Cindy Ruzsay, and Jeff Howard were reappointed to the Commission through April 30, 2025.

6. BUDGET

The budget for 2024 must be completed by June 26. Line items can be adjusted, but cannot exceed the total budget. After much discussion, no major changes were suggested to the projected budget expenditures or revenues for 2024. \$500 was added to exchanges to Angoulême and \$500 was deleted from exchanges from Angoulême. The total remains the same.

Motion by Terri Lamberti, seconded by Marcia Frank, to approve the 2024 budget. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. CURRENT SUB-GROUP REPORTS

A. Culinary/Bon Appétit

This event will be held on April 18, 2024. Sylvain and 4 students will be coming. Robin checked into French speaking tour guides in Chicago. The cost is \$200 for 1½ hours for up to 10 people.

A. Runners

Even though the exchange was cancelled, the Commission will be represented with a booth on Saturday, June 24. All commission members are invited to attend for a photo with the Mayor at 7:10 a.m. T-shirts will be available at the race for the runners who went to Angoulême.

C. Sports

The rugby exchange has been cancelled for this summer due to an illness. Lillian has asked Danielle to have information to us by January, 2024 for next summer. Professionals from France would come here to do training camps with the Northwest Woodsmen rugby group.

D. Comic

No report.

E. Special Projects

Marcia reported that Annette Baldwin will present a Coco Chanel program on Saturday, November 11, at Village Hall for a cost of \$300. The budget for this event is \$500. Jeff suggested a luncheon menu of quiche, salad, and cream puffs. At this point, there would be no maximum attendance. Jeff's suggested fee for food cost and preparation is \$10 per person. The suggested cost for attendees would be \$20 per person.

Motion by Marcia Frank, seconded by Lisa Christie, to approve a \$10 per person fee to Jeff Howard for food costs and prep and charging \$20 per person for attendance. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

F. French Evening

This year will be the 25th anniversary of our French evening! Sylvain has sent the menu and recipes. He will be attending with his wife and 2 culinary students. There are hosts families for all. Sylvain has requested some help from Jeff and 3 culinary students for both Monday and Tuesday, October 23 and 24.

Motion by Jeff Howard, seconded by Cindy Ruzsay, to reach out to local culinary students at both Harper College and Elgin Community Colleges and offer them \$100 per day as an honorarium for their help with food prep on both days. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Lillian requested that Emmanuel be added to the sports exchange sub-group and that Fanja be added to the special projects sub-group. Both will be added to the French Evening sub-group as well.

Motion by Ken Campbell, seconded by Terri Lamberti, to cancel the July 19, 2023 Commission meeting. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ken Campbell, seconded by Cindy Ruzsay, to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Wood-Naatz.