



**SISTER CITY COMMITTEE
Town Center Hall – Meeting Room No. 1
Meeting of Monday, October 7, 2013**

MINUTES

Chairperson Susan Johnston called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL:

Present: Lucy Gomez, Susan Johnston, Jimmy Mendoza, Marcella Obregon, Peggy Radoumis, Ted Radoumis, Mary Reed, Dolores Romero, Dominique Velasco, Marlene Vernava, Martha Villanueva, Jeannette Wolfe, Charlotte Zevallos, and Manny Zevallos

Council Liaison: Councilmember Laurie Rios

Staff: Michelle Smith, Executive Secretary to the Sister City Committee
Lori Balderrama, Administrative Clerk II

Absent: Francis Carbajal, Rigo Estrada, Andrea Lopez, Kimberly Mette, Amanda Tomsick, Doris Yarwood,

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Manny Zevallos and seconded by Charlotte Zevallos to approve the Minutes of September 9, 2013. The motion was carried unanimously.

3. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

- Councilmember Rios shared that tonight, October 7, 2013, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. the League of Women Voters will be holding the candidate forum at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center.
- The next City Council Meeting will take place on Thursday, October 8, 2013. This is just a one-time change.
- The Farmers Market will take place again this Thursday from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m. The Farmers Market has been well attended and will continue year round. Every third Thursday of each month the hours have been extended to 7:00 p.m.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and pink ribbons are on display throughout the City. The Abigail Barraza Foundation initiated the idea of lighting City operated fountains in pink. The City concurred that this was a great idea. As a result of this, City operated fountains will be displayed in pink during the month of October.
- City Hall will be closed Friday, October 11, 2013.
- The Activity Center will be closed starting October 12, 2013, in order for staff to begin the construction of the Haunted House. It is scheduled to re-open on November 4, 2013.
- On October 18, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. all teens ages 13-17 are invited to the Zombie Prom at the Library.

- The week of October 21- 25, 2013, is Red Ribbon Week. The Red Ribbon Parade will take place on Wednesday September 23, 2013.
- Pumpkin carving at our City Parks for kids ages 5-12 will be on October 25, 2013. The cost is \$3.00 per pumpkin. Pre- registrations will be available at any park October 14-22, 2013.
- On October 26, 2013, the Sugar Skull Workshop will take place at Heritage Park from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. .
- The dates for the Haunted House at the Activity Center are October 28-31, 2013. The cost for admission is \$3.00 for ages 12 and under; and \$4.00 for ages 13 and older.
- The Halloween Carnival and Costume Parade at Los Nietos Park will take place on October 31, 2013, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- The Indian Pow-wow is scheduled to take place on November 2-3, 2013, at Heritage Park. This event is hosted, but not funded by the City.
- Councilmember Rios informed the committee that General Elections will take place on Tuesday, November 5, 2013, for the purpose of electing three members to council. She also reminded everyone that "Measure S" would also be on the ballot.
- On November 18, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. the City will hold a public information meeting at the Town Center Hall for the purpose of informing residents about the I-5, it will also include the construction of the Florence Avenue segment and the impact it will have on residents that live there.
- The 48th Annual Citizenship Awards reception takes place on Thursday, November 21, 2013, from 2:00 p.m. -3:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend, however, you must call the Chamber to reserve a seat.
- Our unemployment rate for August 2013 was 8.5%.
- Councilmember Rounds has generously donated a collection of children's vintage books from his mother's book collection. It is on display at the library for those who would like to stop by and see it.
- As of today the City of Santa Fe Springs has shown a 6% decrease in part time crimes. Officers and PSO's have handled 1331 calls for service in September 2013 and out of those calls 227 calls were handled by our PSO's.

4. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT – MICHELLE SMITH

Sugar Skull Workshop - Michelle Smith notified the committee that she spoke to JoAnn Madrid at Heritage Park and got clearance from her for the Sister City Committee to participate as a vendor during this event. The committee agreed to sell Nachos and drinks. A motion was made by Peggy Radoumis and seconded by Jimmy Mendoza to allow the treasurer to provide \$200.00 to use for change at this event. The motion was carried unanimously.

Haunted House/Halloween Carnival – The Haunted House will be under construction beginning Saturday October 12, 2013, at the Activity Center. The Halloween Carnival will take place on October 31, 2013. Michelle let the Committee know that if they are interested in selling at this event also, they are more than welcome to do so. Charlotte Zevallos volunteered to lead and coordinate the fundraising for this event. A motion was made by Peggy Radoumis and seconded by Jimmy Mendoza to allow the treasurer to provide \$200.00 to use as change for this event as well. The motion was carried unanimously.

Fiestas Patrias Evaluation- The committee did very well with their fundraising at this event. Each student received a \$91.00 credit to their account, which means that they raised a grand total of about \$1000.00.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Youth T-shirts – Charlotte Zevallos notified the committee that she spoke to Diane Fonseca and Ms. Fonseca confirmed that she would be giving whatever artwork she had in her possession to Andrea Lopez tomorrow, October 8, 2013.

Viejas Trip – Susan Johnston confirmed that the trip went really well. They received the deposits back for both busses. She shared that there were two kids who made over \$300.00 and another who made almost \$250.00. Ms. Johnston also shared that they are planning to do two more trips, one for the adult committee preferably on a Saturday and another one for the youth on a Sunday.

Pin Order – Committee members who would like to order a pin should let Doris Yarwood know. This item will be discussed further at the next meeting when Ms. Yarwood is present.

Airfare – Due to pricing and time constraints given for gathering and providing passenger information and obtaining the committees approval to make the purchase, it was not possible for the committee to purchase the airline tickets through Francis Carbajal as previously planned. However, after further researching, Jeannette Wolfe was able to get assistance from a friend of John Scoggins who is a travel agent and he was actually able put the tickets on hold for her on a first and last name basis and at a guaranteed price of \$1467.00 (total with all taxes and fees included) pending she gets the committee's approval to purchase the tickets and provides him with all passenger information by latest tomorrow October 8, 2013.

If for some reason a student cannot purchase his or her ticket he will still be able to hold the ticket for them and guarantee that he or she is still on the same flight, however, they may have to pay a higher price depending on whether or not the price of the airfare has gone up.

A motion was made by Peggy Radoumis and seconded by Dolores Romero to allow for the tickets to be purchased tomorrow. The motion was carried unanimously.

If the price of the ticket goes down from the time the tickets are purchased, vouchers will be issued for the difference and they will be good for one year to be used towards the purchase of a different flight.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Subcommittee Sign-up Sheet - Sign- up sheets for Subcommittees were passed around to all committee members.

Code of Conduct – Dolores Romero attended the Super Committee meeting and she will bring the code of conduct information to the next meeting.

Holiday Dinner – A motion was made by Charlotte Zevallos and seconded by Jimmy

Mendoza to have a committee holiday dinner. The motion was carried unanimously. Charlotte will call several places and bring different options for the committee to choose from by the next meeting. Also Susan Johnston reminded everyone to bring an unwrapped gift for the neighborly elf program plus an additional \$5-\$10 for the cash donation envelope.

7. **TIRSCHENREUTH & YOUNG AMBASSADORS**

Susan Johnston stressed about the importance of getting a subcommittee together to begin working on a program for the students who will be coming here. She mentioned that those committee members who signed up for this subcommittee will be getting a call from her soon so that they may begin brainstorming, because they will need to provide those students with a plan/ itinerary by December.

8. **FINANCIAL REPORT – JEANNETTE WOLFE**

A copy of the financial report was distributed to all committee members. Jeannette Wolfe reviewed the reports in detail. A motion was made by Peggy Radoumis and seconded by Charlotte Zevallos to accept and file the financial report. The motion was carried unanimously.

9. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM**

- Subcommittees
- Super Committee Code of Conduct (Dolores Romero)
- Sugar Skull Workshop at Heritage Park
- Holiday Dinner
- Airfare Verification
- New applications
- Fiestas Patrias - Navajoa (Eddie Ramirez)

11. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jimmy Mendoza – Announced that the Christmas Float Volunteer Meeting would take place on Thursday, November 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Center Hall.

Michelle Smith – Notified the committee that Eddie Ramirez will attend the next committee meeting to help brainstorm for next year's Fiestas Patrias event.

Michelle also asked the committee if they were going to need any money to purchase any of the items that they are planning to sell at either the Sugar Skull Workshop and/or the Halloween Carnival. A motion was made by Charlotte Zevallos and seconded by Jimmy Mendoza to approve that a check be made out for an amount not to exceed \$200.00 for each event for the purchase of any items needed.

12. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 4, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Center Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Smith,
Executive Secretary

MS/lb