

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
DOOR COUNTY SISTER CITY AD HOC INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP**

**DOOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
421 NEBRASKA STREET  
STURGEON BAY, WI 54235**

The Door County Sister City Ad Hoc Informal Advisory Group will conduct a public meeting on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020, in the Chambers Room (Room C102, first floor), Door County Government Center, 421 Nebraska Street, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**AGENDA**

- 1.0 Open meeting.
- 2.0 Verification of proper notice and posting procedures; quorum present; adoption of the agenda.
- 3.0 Public comment.
  - a) Information may be received from members of the public.
  - b) Extensive discussion and all action must be deferred until and unless specific notice of the subject matter is included on the agenda.
- 4.0 Correspondence.
- 5.0 Read and act on minutes of December 9, 2019.
- 6.0 Discussion items:
  - a. Corona virus status update for Jingdezhen.
  - b. 2020 Door County delegation visit(s) to Jingdezhen and potential agendas / focuses
  - c. Invitation for 2020 Jingdezhen delegation visit to Door County
  - d. Jingdezhen J1 visa students/student workers in Door County 2020
  - e. Next steps to complete the Taoxichuan Square Door County courtyard fence
  - f. "Entry" signs to county with sister city information
  - g. Update on potential Icelandic sister city relationship
  - h. Continued coordination with Sister Cities International – state-wide video conference?
  - i. Continued work/discussion on county group's structure
- 7.0 Set next meeting date.
- 8.0 Adjourn.

\*\* Deviation from the order shown may occur. \*\*

Helen Bacon, Chair  
Ad Hoc Sister City Committee  
County Government Center  
421 Nebraska Street  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

MKG/lr  
02/06/20

Notice in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act: Any person needing assistance to participate in this meeting should contact the Office of the County Clerk at (920) 746-2200. Notification 48 hours prior to a meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

These minutes have not been reviewed by the oversight committee and are subject to approval at the next regular committee meeting.

**Minutes of the  
JINGDEZHEN SISTER CITY AD HOC INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP  
Monday, December 9, 2019**

**1.0 Open meeting.**

Chair Bacon called the meeting of the Door County Ad Hoc Sister City Informal Advisory Group to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Chambers Room of the Door County Government Center, 421 Nebraska Street, Sturgeon Bay, WI.

Advisory Group Members

Present: Helen Bacon  
Laura Vlies-Wotachek  
Bill Schuster  
Bill Chaudoir  
Megan Lundahl  
Susan Kohout

Others present

Mariah Goode  
Grant Thomas  
Julie Merow  
Kent Kruse  
Ginner Kruse

John Rybski  
Liz Hoffman  
Ken Pabich

**2.0 Verification of proper notice and posting procedures; quorum present; adoption of the agenda.**

Proper notice and posting procedures having occurred, the agenda was adopted by consensus.

**3.0 Public comment.**

- a) Information may be received from members of the public.
- b) Extensive discussion and all action must be deferred until and unless specific notice of the subject matter is included on the agenda.

None.

**4.0 Correspondence.**

The county received a letter from Sister Cities International regarding various activities and fundraising efforts.

**5.0 Read and act on minutes of September 30, 2019.**

Minutes approved by consensus.

**6.0 Discussion items:**

**a. Efforts to export, market, and sell Door County products in Jingdezhen**

Vlies-Wotachek and Pabich reported that Door County has been awarded a Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) grant to assist businesses in planning for and potentially distributing products in China in 2020. Door County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) will be the official grant recipient. Committee members requested that DCEDC be asked to attend the next meeting in order to provide information on the project generally, and specifically as to how the grant monies will be allocated between interested businesses.

Jingdezhen is going to have a Spring Fair in May 2020 at Taoxichuan Square at which the businesses will be able to test out their products, make contacts, etc. There is also a grocery store chain with relationships to Jingdezhen which might be a distribution/sales option for businesses in the future. The potential for a stand-alone store at Taoxichuan Square is also still an option, but this is likely a much longer-term goal/option.

WEDC also has an April 2020 purveyors' fair in Shanghai, which may be attended by Wisconsin businesses interested in sales throughout China generally. One of the businesses interested in the Door County/Jingdezhen-specific activities may attend this April event (with possibly a side trip to Jingdezhen) as well as the May event.

Committee members suggested that some of the grant money should be used to ensure that businesses have with them an interpreter that they have chosen, not one chosen/assigned by Jingdezhen or Shanghai. The businesses need to be sure their interests are represented.

Goode will invite DCEDC and a business to the next committee meeting to get their thoughts re: this project.

**b. 2020 Door County delegation visit(s) to Jingdezhen and potential agendas / focuses**

Vlies-Wotachek, David Lienau, and/or Ken Pabich will be part of the May 2020 visit with the businesses. Consensus that no other county representatives or committee members need participate in that visit.

Bacon, Lundahl, and Merow expressed interest in an October 2020 visit, which would focus on J1 student and university relationships, completing the Taoxichuan Square fence, and any in-person follow-up needed from the May visit.

Grant will distribute 2016 and 2018 China itineraries to Mariah to distribute to the group so they can begin thinking about potential travel plans before and/or after the time in Jingdezhen.

**c. Invitation for 2020 Jingdezhen delegation visit to Door County**

Grant will work with David Lienau on an invitation for a 2020 delegation visit to Door County.

**d. Next steps to complete the Taoxichuan Square Door County courtyard fence**

Rybski recently talked with a local photographer who might be interested in helping with (or at least acting as a resource for) this project. Lundahl pointed out that the types of photography prints being discussed (metal) are not usually intended to be displayed outdoors, so research will need to be done to figure out what will print well and be weather-resistant.

Grant will send the information collected in 2018 as to the number of spaces to fill and the size. He and Mariah will also double-check that information with Parker.

Rybski and Lundahl will continue to discuss what types of art would work for the fence. This needs to be figured out before we approach artists.

**e. "Entry" signs to county with sister city information**

Grant got the idea of having signs that say "Sister City to Jingdezhen" posted below the green "Door County" signs at the county line from another area of the state that had similar signs. He will talk to John Kolodziej at the Highway Department to find out what our options are under WisDOT regulations.

**f. Jingdezhen J1 visa students/student workers in Door County 2020**

Merow reported that, based on what she has heard from students who were here in 2019, no meeting about J1 opportunities in Door County was held this fall for students.

Vlies-Wotachek and Merow will look into forwarding the videos Vlies-Wotachek made with Lienau, so that Merow can at least distribute those to the students she is in contact with. They can then further distribute.

Grant and Mariah will touch base with Parker about the general issues of recruitment, shepherding students through the process (so as to make sure they don't end up in The Dells, for example), etc.

**g. Update on potential Icelandic sister city relationship**

Bacon reported that some Washington Islanders may be going to Iceland in June 2020 for some activities planned in honor of it being the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Icelanders first coming to Washington Island. So far, there seems to be lukewarm feelings toward the idea of establishing a formal sister city relationship between the two places.

**h. Continued coordination with Sister Cities International – state-wide video conference?**

Mariah reported that John Shanahan had been in contact with Al Durtka, and it remains to be determined when/if there will be some sort of state-wide video conference for sister city organizations.

**i. Continued work/discussion on county group's structure**

Committee members noted that at the very least, the group should be renamed (dropping the "Jingdezhen" specificity). Discussion on this matter should be placed on the next agenda.

**7.0 Set next meeting date.**

The next committee meeting will be February 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

**8.0 Adjourn.**

Motion by Kohout, seconded by Bacon, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Reported by,

Mariah Goode