AGENDA

1.0 Open meeting.
2.0 Verification of proper notice and posting procedures; quorum present; adoption of the agenda.
3.0 Elect chair.
4.0 Elect vice-chair.
5.0 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.
6.0 Correspondence.
7.0 Review and act on minutes of February 17, 2020 meeting.
8.0 Review past history and accomplishments of the program and recent activity areas:
   • Delegation visits to & from Jingdezhen, China
   • J1 students from Jingdezhen, China in Door County
   • Information and gift display at ADRC
   • Efforts to market Door County products in China
   • Taorxichuan Square (fence yet to be completed)
   • Possible signs at county entrances on STHs 42, 57
9.0 April 2021 virtual gathering with Jingdezhen, China representatives.
10.0 Potential 2022 delegation visit from China.
11.0 Potential 2022 delegation visit(s) to China.
12.0 Near and long-term goals and objectives:
   • County group as Sister City “umbrella”
   • Community partnerships
   • Other
13.0 Sister Cities International relationship/coordination.
14.0 Set next meeting date.
15.0 Meeting per diem code.
16.0 Adjourn.

Deviation from order shown may occur.
Minutes of the
JINGDEZHEN SISTER CITY AD HOC INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP
Monday, February 17, 2020

1.0 Open meeting.

Chair Bacon called the meeting of the Door County Jingdezhen Sister City Ad Hoc 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
Susan Kohout
Bill Schuster
Bill Chaudoir
Megan Lundahl

Others present
Mariah Goode
Grant Thomas
Ken Pabich
Megan Lundahl

Excused: Laura Vlies-Wotachek

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

After verifying that proper notice and posting procedures had occurred, there was a motion by Lundahl, seconded by Kohout, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

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.

None.

5.0 Read and act on minutes of December 9, 2019.

Motion by Lundahl, seconded by Kohout, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

6.0 Discussion items:


The county received an official request from Jingdezhen to assist the area with items such as face masks, protective clothing, etc. Thomas and Pabich talked with Public Health and the hospital, and conducted extensive on-line searches – there is almost nothing available, and certainly nothing available that is inexpensive and/or in any significant quantity. There is a
world-wide shortage of such items, and what is out there is available only to nonprofits or medical facilities. The county will respond to the official request letting Jingdezhen know that we tried, but are unable to help.

Bacon reported that there are so far 3 official cases of the virus in Jingdezhen. Universities have closed, likely for the remainder of the school year.

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

The economic development-focused group of people who had planned to visit Jingdezhen in April 2020 has decided not to go due to concerns about Corona virus.

After some discussion about a possible Fall 2020 visit, there was a motion by Schuster, seconded by Lundahl, to not organize a formal delegation to go to Jingdezhen in Fall 2020 and to not invite a formal delegation from Jingdezhen to visit Door County in 2020. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

c. Invitation for 2020 Jingdezhen delegation visit to Door County

Covered under motion in item b, above.

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

Thomas reported that up to 24 students from Jingdezhen were approved to come to Door County for the summer this year. The Corona virus outbreak may very well negatively impact the 2020 J1 visa/students. Just how severe the impact will be will depend on many unknown variables, among them: how long the outbreak will last, if /when local and international travel restrictions may be lifted, and whether Chinese colleges reopen in time to finish their terms more or less on schedule.

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

John Rybski and Laura Vlies-Wotachek agreed at the last meeting to investigate options for this project. Neither of them could make this meeting, but there is no urgency on this item since it is likely no one will be visiting Jingdezhen in 2020.

f. “Entry” signs to county with sister city information

Thomas will find out the logistics and costs to place green signs in the rights-of-way on the posts with the “Door County” signs and report back to the group.

g. Update on potential Icelandic sister city relationship

Bacon noted that 2020 is the 150th anniversary of the first Icelanders coming to Washington Island. A group of about 20 islanders will be going to Iceland in June. Among other activities, they will be meeting with the President of Iceland, during which hopefully discussion about a sister city relationship can be broached. In October, a group from Iceland will be coming to Washington Island. Bacon will keep the sister city advisory group informed as to how discussions progress.

h. Continued coordination with Sister Cities International – state-wide video conference?
Goode reported that John Shanahan continues to stay in contact with Al Durtka, who has said he still intends to pursue a state-wide video conference of sister city organizations. Goode will let everyone know when we have further information.

i. Continued work/discussion on county group’s structure

After some discussion, there was a motion by Kohout, seconded by Lundahl, to propose to the county board as part of the 2020 committee organization and assignments to rename this group to the Door County Sister City Advisory Group. The concept behind the name change is that the group is looking to serve as an “umbrella” organization to sister city relationships in the county, rather than to just be a group focused on the county’s Jingdezhen relationship. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

7.0 Set next meeting date.

The next committee meeting will be Monday, May 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

8.0 Adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Reported by,

Mariah Goode

MKG/Ir
02/17/20