



City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
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Meeting Minutes Sister City Committee

Friday, January 24, 2025

12:00 PM

Staff Conference Room, 1st Floor, City Hall

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A. Call To Order

Vice Chair Valerie Harbolovic called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Staff Liaison Stephanie Box called roll.

Present: 5 - Valerie Harbolovic, Susane "Westi" Horn, Charles Harris, Heather Moretzsohn, and Ana Rivera-Soto

Absent: 3 - Luis F. Cabrera, Adria Vasquez, and Mourad Hasbaoui

C. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

D. Approval of Minutes and Action on Absences

Member Heather Moretzsohn motioned to approve Member Ana Rivera-Soto's absence, seconded by Member Susane Westi Horn and passed unanimously.

1. [25-0051](#) Minutes of the December 12, 2024 meeting

The minutes were approved.

Aye: 5 - Valerie Harbolovic, Susane "Westi" Horn, Charles Harris, Heather Moretzsohn, and Ana Rivera-Soto

Absent: 3 - Luis F. Cabrera, Adria Vasquez, and Mourad Hasbaoui

Abstained: 0

E. Committee Reports

2. [24-2009](#) Agen Subcommittee update - Susan Westi Horne, Chair

Subcommittee Chair Horn submitted draft letter to Staff Liaison Box for the Mayor, and discussed accommodation, transportation, and hosting for Agen delegation to include Agen Mayor and two assistants. Member Harbolovic discussed Del Mar College legal team reviewing possibility of including culinary program.

3. [24-2010](#) Student Exchange Subcommittee report - Luis Cabrera, Chair

Nothing to report by Chair Cabrera.

4. [24-2011](#) Veracruz Subcommittee report - Valerie Harbolovic, Chair

Subcommittee Chair Harbolovic discussed three partners to participate in a virtual economic summit: Chamber of Commerce, Visit Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Center. Waiting for response from Port of Corpus Christi. Will follow up with Jorge on dates for summit.

5. [24-2012](#) Yokosuka Subcommittee update - Susane Westi Horne, Chair

Subcommittee Chair Horn discussed early registration for summit due by January 30, 2025.

6. [24-2013](#) Budget & Fundraising Subcommittee update - Charles Harris, Chair

Subcommittee Vice Chair Harris received \$500 gift cards to be used while hosting students in Corpus Christi. Valero, Citgo, and Schlumberger will not be donating. Will follow up with HEB House/Ed Rachal Foundation to use facility for future event. Member Rivera-Soto will draft letter of solicitation for members to petition for donations. Member Moretzsohn makes a motion to consider making Member Harris the subcommittee chair. Member Horn seconded the motion, and all approved unanimously.

7. [24-2014](#) Transition Subcommittee Update - Valerie Harbolovic, Chair

Subcommittee Chair Harbolovic discussed scheduling a training day to review benefits of remaining with the city or transferring to the Chamber of Commerce. Chair Harbolovic will survey all members to consider two dates in February and two dates in March for training/retreat.

8. [24-2015](#) Toledo Subcommittee update

Nothing to report by Subcommittee Chair Cabrera. Member Harbolovic discussed expressed interest from Spain to rekindle Sister City relationship.

F. Staff Reports

9. [24-2016](#) Updates from Staff Liaison

Staff Liaison Box reported to table consideration for Tangiers for now. Formal process to add a sister city includes research and presentation for approval to City Council. Liaison Box discussed term limits and upcoming deadlines to apply and be appointed; information on U.S. and Japan Asian studies email; and congratulatory letter received by the Mayor from Agen mayor.

G. Unfinished Business

10. [25-0036](#) U.S. and Japan Summit - Early registration and fees

Subcommittee Chair Horn discussed early registration cost \$550. She will follow up on extension for early bird registration pricing while the Budget Subcommittee finalizes plans for the budget.

H. New Business for Discussion and Possible Action

11. [25-0034](#) Approval of Annual Report

Member Moretzsohn motioned for approval of Annual Report, seconded by Member Horn and approved unanimously.

Aye: 5 - Valerie Harbolovic, Susane "Westi" Horn, Charles Harris, Heather Moretzsohn, and Ana Rivera-Soto

Absent: 3 - Luis F. Cabrera, Adria Vasquez, and Mourad Hasbaoui

Abstained: 0

12. [23-0118](#) 2025 Agen Cultural Exchange Program

Member Horn discussed student from Rockport interested in participating in 2025 Cultural Exchange program, and will direct contact to Subcommittee Chair Luis Cabrera.

13. [25-0035](#) Future meeting schedule, including regular and special meetings

All discussed possibly rescheduling meeting to after 5 p.m. Staff Liaison Box will email all members to survey.

I. Future Agenda Items

J. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.