

SISTER CITY COMMISSION

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE SISTER CITY COMMISSION OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS JANUARY 23, 2025

On January 23, 2025 a meeting of the Sister city Commission was held at 3:30p.m. In City Hall with Chair Patrick Roesler presiding.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following commissions present: Patrick Roesler, Diane Joseph, Karin Smith, Tim Doyle, Jim Dillon, Jim Spears, Patricia Melaik, Julie Enzenberger, Rex Linder, Kevin Sullivan, and Chet Tomeczyk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the October 16, 2024 meeting were approved on motion of Tim Doyle, seconded by Julie Enzenberger.

CLONMEL UPDATE

Jim Dillon reported on the Maggi Bertram Foundation fund raiser to support the fine arts. Will be held on 3/14/2025, 4:00pm -8:00pm at the Holy Family School Gym. Admission is free. All proceeds support the arts education program.

Jim Dillon reported that dates have not yet been set for the 25th anniversary celebration/trips.

Other upcoming activities include: Pub Crawl on February 1, 2025 and Trivia event on 4/2/2025 at 1pm.

FRIEDRICHSHAFEN UPDATE

Patrick Roesler introduced the student exchange for 2025 – kids from Friedrichshafen staying with host families in the Peoria area.

Rex Linder provided an update leadership changes in Friedrichshafen. Simon Blumcke is the new Mayor of Friedrichshafen and Matthias Benz, CEO of Zeppelin Group

Planning for the 50th anniversary of the sister city relationship (2026) will begin at the start of the second quarter of 2025.

BENXI UPDATE

Rex Linder provided details on planning to re-engage with Benxi, through the State of IL Economic Development Department and the Shanghai EDC. Patrick Roesler will connect with the group and Peter to see about moving the relationship forward.

AYTOU UPDATE

Diana Joseph provided an update on conditions in Aytou. The people are holding their own, but still needing help with food and medication.

Diane Joseph reported that the Aytou relief committee continues to send about \$3,000 per month for food and medication assistance to Aytou.

Given the unstable state of the region, there is no planned group trip to Aytou. However, people from Peoria are continuing to travel to Aytou to be with family.

OTHER

The 2025 Annual Sister City Night is scheduled for April 25, 2025

The committee had a good discussion on possible new sister cities with Peoria. Ideas raised included cities in Japan, Italy, India, and Africa. A Peoria group has already started some planning for the possibility of a city in Japan. Patrick Roesler will connect with that group and provide more detail at the next Sister City Commission Meeting.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

NEXT MEETING

April 16, 2025 at 4:30 p.m., room 404 in City Hall

ADJOURNMENT