

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 5, 2017, 11:30 a.m.
City Clerk's Office
City Hall

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Lorrie Williams - Chair
Councillor Chuck Puchmayr - Council Member Representative
Blair Fryer - Manager of Communications and Economic
Development

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Lisa Spitale - Chief Administrative Officer
Jan Gibson - City Clerk

STAFF PRESENT:

Lauren Blake - Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Item 5.1 – Councillor Williams' Trip to China
- Item 5.2 – Consideration of a Friendship City in Guatemala
- Item 5.3 – Consideration of a Sister City with the Tsilhqot'in Nation

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes from May 4, 2016

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the May 4, 2016 International Relations Task Force minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

There were no items.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Councillor Williams' Trip to Lijiang, China

Councillor Lorrie Williams, Chair, advised that she will be travelling to Lijiang, China, to interview students.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the International Relations Task Force recommend that Council support Councillor Lorrie Williams trip to Lijiang, China, to interview girls for the student exchange; and,

THAT the funds for the trip be taken from the Sister City account.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Requested that members seek for two families to host. Lauren to find the leftover names from last year. Place an ad in the paper if they don't work out.

5.2 Consideration of a Friendship City in Guatemala

Councillor Lorrie Williams, Chair, suggested that the City could consider a Friendship City relationship with Antigua, Guatemala. Antigua is currently working on their infrastructure.

The Task Force suggested that Councillor Williams can discuss a Friendship Relationship with the Mayor of Antigua during her next trip. If the Mayor is interested, he may contact the City to initiate a relationship.

5.3 Consideration of a Sister City with the Tsilhqot'in Nation

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr, Council Member Representative, suggested that the City could consider creating a Sister City relationship with the Tsilhqot'in Nation. The Tsilhqot'in Nation make an annual trip to New Westminster to honor Chief Ahan, whose remains are believed to be in New Westminster.

The Task Force advised that Councillor Puchmayr should discuss a proposed Sister City relationship with Chief Rhonda Larrabee, Chief of Qayqayt First Nation, and then discuss a relationship with Chief Joe Alphonse, Tsilhqot'in Nation.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

6.1 Invitation to Moriguchi to Canada 150 Celebration

Councillor Lorrie Williams, Chair, summarized the correspondence dated November 18, 2016 regarding a delegation from Moriguchi that may be coming to New Westminster in July 2017 for the Canada 150 Celebration.

The Task Force advised that the City could host a delegation of 17 representatives from June 30 – July 2, 2017. The following itinerary was proposed:

- Friday, June 30: The City to host a BBQ at Westminster Pier Park. It was suggested that there could be a volleyball challenge. Additional entertainment to be arranged. A tent can be provided for shade and/or cover from the rain (if needed).
- Saturday, July 1: Canada Day festivities. Transportation can be provided by Councillors, or the delegation can travel by foot.
- Sunday, July 2: The City to host breakfast, and provide a local tour.

Staff was instructed to advise Moriguchi of hotel rates for the Inn at the Quay from June 30 – July 2, and to investigate if Seniors Services Society rents their bus.

6.2 Dutch Remembrance Day Celebration Request

Councillor Lorrie Williams, Chair, summarized the correspondence dated November 17, 2016, regarding an invitation to a Remembrance Day ceremony for the Netherlands community.

The Task Force expressed interest in attending the Dutch Remembrance Day ceremony. Councillor Williams will meet with Dave Vernon, Royal Westminster Regiment, to see if the Regiment is interested in attending. Councillor Williams

will also contact the Holland Shop for a possible sponsorship opportunity. The City could also provide advertising for the event in New Westminster.

Staff was directed to follow-up with the Dutch Consul's office regarding the event, as well as to find out if the Anvil Centre would be available that day.

7.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

7.1 "Pride of the Philippines" Event

Procedural note: Item 7.1 was addressed prior to Item 5.1.

Blair Fryer, Manager of Communications and Economic Development, summarized the proposal for the "Pride of the Philippines" that was received from Victor Villamera, New Westminster Resident.

The Task Force suggested that the organizers could consider changing the name of the event from "Pride", in order to avoid association or confusion with New West Pride. The Task Force directed staff to draft a letter acknowledging the event, and for the organizer to keep the Task Force advised of the progress of the event.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is to be determined

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was concluded at 12:21 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Signed Original
Councillor Lorrie Williams
Chair

Signed Original
Lauren Blake
Committee Clerk