

**Village of Hoffman Estates
Sister City Commission Minutes
December 18, 2024**

Members in Attendance

Lillian Mosier, Chair
Jill Wood-Naatz, Vice Chair
Vanya Castle
Robin Jacobi
Terri Lamberti
Bob Dohn
Diana Murray
Marcia Frank
Cindy Ruszay

Members Absent

Anita Flanagan
Jeff Howard
Lisa Christie
Fanja Raelijaona-Michel
Ken Campbell
Melissa Marscin
Mimi Wise

Staff Liaison

Debbie Schoop

Guests

David Chameli

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Lillian Mosier called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Robin Jacobi, seconded by Bob Dohn, to approve the minutes of November 20, 2024 meeting. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Lillian reported that she cannot attend the January 15 Commission meeting and Jill may not be available to run the meeting. There was consensus to change January meeting to January 22, 2025 beginning at 6:00 pm to allow time for Comic presentation by David Chameli. Lillian asked that, in the future, Commission members remember to notify Lillian as soon as possible if members are unable to make it to a meeting.

5. STAFF LIAISON'S REPORT

6. CURRENT SUB-GROUP REPORTS

A. Signature Exchanges

1) Culinary/Bon Appetit

The date of the exchange is April 19-26, 2025. Jill Wood-Naatz reviewed the activities during the exchange. She received a good response to the various articles seeking for host families. She reported that the adult cooking class will be on April 22 from 7-8:30 p.m. and Chef Sylvain will be preparing a French pound cake. Chef will be asked to make some in advance for the class to try and then package up the cakes to take home the night of the class. Registration will open March 15 and close April 14 by calling Hallie. Jill will send an article for the March-April *Citizen*.

Tate & Lyle has agreed to allow the chef to prepare for the Bon Appetit on April 23-24, 2025.

The potluck will be April 25, 2025 with salads and desserts – location to be determined.

2) Runners Exchange

The date of the exchange is April 1-7, 2025. Jason Fong and Linda Higgs will be participating and there may be a third runner. There will be a Zoom meeting in January with the runners. Runners' airfares to be paid from the 2025 budget.

B. Other Exchanges

1) Sports

The date of the exchange is April 8-15, 2025. Bob Dohn reported that four meetings were held with HE United Soccer team, 12 parents were in attendance. So far, there are 8 host families for 15-18 students. Robin Jacobi will reach out to Conant and HEHS staff for additional hosts. Plans include a Harper College tour on April 10, 2025 and a HEHS tour on April 14. Gifts for the guests include: Navy beanie, ornament, zippered bag, and stickers, totaling approximately \$280 or \$15.55 per guest. From the Village, guests will receive a navy and white scarf and a Village pen. Debbie Schoop will order the gifts from Amazon.

Motion by Bob Dohn, seconded by Terri Lamberti, to purchase the gifts for the soccer exchange students. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

2) Comic

Comic exchange to Angouleme is January 27-February 2, 2025. Fanja gave David the French translation of his presentation. Copy sent to Danielle. There will be 41 students aged 10 years plus teachers in Angouleme. Comic book gifts have been ordered. Landis' questions have been answered.

C. Special Projects

There will be a "Wine and War" presentation on November 14, 2025. More details will be provided as the date nears.

D. French Evening

Event will take place at Village Hall on Friday October 24th, 2025.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Terri Lamberti, seconded by Marcia Frank, to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm
Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Vanya Castle

*The next meeting of the Sister Cities Commission will be 6:00pm on January 22nd, 2025
in the Frank Alexa Room at the Village Hall.*