

**Village of Hoffman Estates
Sister Cities Commission Minutes
April 16, 2025**

Members in Attendance

Lillian Mosier, Chair
Jill Wood-Naatz, Vice Chair
Ken Campbell
Lisa Christie
Bob Dohn
Robin Jacobi
Anita Flanagan
Jeff Howard
Terri Lamberti
Fanja Raoelijaona-Michel
Cindy Ruszay
David Chameli
Melissa Marscin
Mimi Wise
Diana Murray

Members Absent

Vanya Castle
Marcia Frank

Staff Liaison

Debbie Schoop

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Lillian Mosier called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Terri Lamberti, seconded by Robin Jacobi, to approve the minutes of March 19, 2025.
Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Lillian welcomed 2 runners who went to France, Linda Higgs & Jason Fong, to the meeting. Both returned back from Angouleme on April 10th. Both thanked the Commission for sponsoring them. They both loved the host families they stayed with and enjoyed the entire time they were there. They had no travel issues to or from Angouleme. Bob and the soccer committee did a fabulous job with all the coordination and hosting of all 15 soccer students, coach, teacher and Danielle. One of the host families, Ana Grecu, was interested in joining our committee and also adding Romania as another sister city. Jeff and Lillian wrote an article for the Village newsletter looking for potential members that have a culinary background.

Lillian discussed the details of the special meeting that took place with Danielle and the Mayor on April 10, 2025. Items that were discussed included honoring our 30-year anniversary, soccer exchange, runners exchange, comic exchange, and twinning protocol. Mayor McLeod told Lillian to send a letter to the Mayor of Angouleme about honoring our 30-year anniversary. Jeff Howard took minutes at special meeting. Lillian distributed a copy of the official protocol.

5. STAFF LIAISON'S REPORT

No report

6. CURRENT SUB-GROUP REPORTS

A. Signature Exchanges

1) Culinary/Bon Appétit

The cooking class for April 22 is full. Volunteers will be Jill, Fanja, Lisa, Robin, Jeff, and Debbie. Lillian distributed assignments for the Bon Appetit. Pot luck dinner is scheduled for April 25th at 6pm and will be held at Jill's house.

2) Runners Exchange

The exchange dates have changed due to Nais & Fantine flight change. The new dates are June 21-28. The new host family will be Carmela & Emmanuel Etgar. We are working on a new itinerary for them. Will have it completed by the May meeting. Pot luck has been confirmed with new time of 1pm on June 28 at Cheryl and David Rogan's house.

The 2 runners are registered for the Hoffman Estates "Stars and Stripes" race which will be held on June 28, 2025, at Bell Works.

B. Other Exchanges

1) Sports

We will need to have a medical release form in the future for all minors. Ken spoke to Thomas Mocon, Assistant Principal at Hoffman Estates High School. He was very happy with the group and will welcome future exchanges. We will need to get approval from the School Board and will need to go through Athletic Director, Eric Wenckowski.

2) Comic

David went to C2E2 the past weekend. This happens every year. The dates for next year are March 27-29, 2026. Easter will be April 5th. They are looking at dates for the exchange.

C. **Special Projects**

Lillian asked Lisa to coordinate a zoom meeting with Seror, Jeff, Marcia, Lillian, Debbie and Lisa to discuss the presentation “Wine and War” that will take place on November 14, 2025.

National music day in France is June 21st. Looking at possibilities for future events.

D. **French Evening**

Lillian purchased 5 cases of wine for our French evening. She also has 3 catering quotes and “Catering Made Simple” was selected.

Motion by Anita Flanagan, seconded by Fanja Raoelijaona-Michel, to pay Catering Made Simple \$30 per person. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Anita Flanagan, seconded by Jeff Howard, charge \$60 per person for the French Evening. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Lillian will be sending a preliminary list of what types of baskets we have already to avoid duplicates. Deb will send the merchant letter to Commission members.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Jill Wood-Naatz, seconded by Robin Jacobi, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Voice vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Christie

*The next meeting of the Sister Cities Commission will be at 6:30 PM
on May 28, 2025, in the Frank Alexa Room at the Village Hall.*