

MINUTES OF SISTER CITIES MEETING  
JANUARY 23, 2016

Linda Speed called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. at Delchamps Room, Fairhope Civic Center.

In attendance: Linda Speed, Judy Culbreth, Fran Morley, Jack Burrell, Cindy Wilson and Ed Lamonte.

Linda reported that she had contacted Lee Lawson, and Lawson had suggested Lee Webb at Compass Bank as a member of the Sister Cities Committee. Linda will follow up with Lee Webb. Jack Burrell will collect the committee member applications for review at the next meeting. There are two open positions. (Judy Culbreth was reappointed.)

Ed Lamonte distributed an email from Rob Gray, a former faculty member at University of South Alabama. Ed will ask Rob to keep his antenna wiggling about the possibilities of Bergen, Norway. Linda Speed will ask Taylor Woodruff of Sister Cities International to make inquiries about Bergen. Committee members looked at photos of the Northern Lights in Bergen.

Mayor Kant had mentioned Little Niagara Falls, Canada, as a possibility. Cindy Wilson will ask Sherry Sullivan about this site. Sherry may know a contact because Little Niagara Falls is another town that enters flower competitions.

Cindy Wilson will contact Patti Hughston about film connections in Canada. Linda Speed reiterated that it is important to have a contact person in a city to move an application forward.

Fran Morley got an email from Martin Enright in Sligo. Bartley Gavin is the main council member for "twinning" in Sligo. Fran will write to Bartley. Fran has also spoken to Ronan McSharry about Sligo. Ronan has many relatives in government posts in Sligo. He will help us make connections. Ronan will also be traveling there in the next month or so and will bring up our interest.

Cindy Wilson said that once we are in a position to raise funds for a Sister City program, we should contact foundations, such as the Sybil Smith Foundation.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 23 at 4.