

# Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 14, 2022

7:00 pm

Alexandria City Hall – Room 1101

- I. Welcome and Call to Order – quorum present (see Attendees listed below)
- II. Approve Minutes from February Meeting – Elodie Guillon, ACSSC member; Dan Morrison, ACSSC member; and Alex Jevgrafovs, ACSSC member.
- III. Welcome New Member – Michael Skardon
- IV. Mimi Joy, ACSSC member, resigned.
- V. Ongoing Business
  - A. Caen Committee Updates – Elodie – Zoom call in January where we spoke to our Caen counterparts where we discussed issues such as student exchanges. Afterwards, Pascal sent an email and expressed concern. Students will have to have an arrangement with their respective school and the school that they will attend while abroad. There were also some concerns over liability (on Alexandria’s end). George Washington Middle School (Alexandria) is open to doing an exchange of up to approximately 20 students. St John’s is working on an exchange with a private school in Caen. Regarding the internship program, the Committee selects interns (college students) for the City. Jennifer Reading, ACSSC member, pointed out that the Committee has never worked with our Caen counterpart in managing the internship program. Gretchen (from the City) let the Committee know we would not be participating in the internship program this year.
  - B. D-Day Commemoration and Lecture – In late May, City Council will want us to speak about the programs during the meeting. Be on the lookout for details. Dan volunteered to be the site lead for the Lyceum. For publicity, Laura Withers, ACSSC member, volunteered to help advertise the programs in the local publications. Dan said he would talk to the new French Baget restaurant on King St. There was a discussion about whether we wanted to pay for advertising. General consensus was that we’d prefer to let the programs to sell themselves as well as the Committee. The Gazette and the Alexandria Times are the go-to publications we discussed getting an article in before the programs take place. Alex has a connection with Alexandria Living. We also discussed the old media list that Laura went through. She noted it was very out of date. Jennifer said she’d like to go through the list with Laura. Jim Holloway, City of Alexandria, said there would be a Zoom option for the lectures and a video could be posted on our social media afterwards. Quartet is going to be \$1100 for one hour. Sound engineers will also need to be paid. Setup is at 2. Program is at 3. Program ends at 6. Then breakdown coordinator/crew (different than setup coordinator/crew). The expectation is that Committee members participate unless otherwise engaged with a prior commitment. Ashley Harper-Johnson, ACSSC member, said if someone could assist with the email language, she would be happy to reach out to some local, veteran-owned companies for sponsorships. Charge for lecture (\$10) but the Commemoration is free. Kyly Larriviere, ACSSC member, suggested a discount for veterans. Kyly said it made more sense for a veteran-related event to be a lower cost with options to donate. Motion for \$15 ticket sales passed with only one vote against. Motion for the price of the Zoom option to be \$10. Motion passed unanimously. We also decided that 100 in-person attendees would be the maximum. Scott asked for the Committee’s social

media information for the Honor Guard application, including the social media hashtags that will be used. We discussed adding a video recording of the Commemoration program to social media. The Committee expressed interest in getting local high school students to volunteer and participate as well. Laura is going to ask her neighbor, a history teacher at TC Williams. Another idea was having the high school audio visual club assist in recording the Commemoration program. Steve said that a local journalist from Alexandria Times.

## VI. New Business

- A. Storage Clean up at Lloyd House – Elodie, Steve Hartka, ACSSC member, Dan (if available), Wesley Thomas, ACSSC member, (if available), Allison Wynn, ACSSC member (if available) volunteered to help.
- B. Brin de Muguet/May Day/Labor Day – April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> – (see handout). Kyly was able to secure a table at the Farmer’s Market for us. Change from proposal presented at last month’s meeting – change to Champaign bar. The Carlyle House has said that they would like to partner with us and asked only that we provide a donation to the Carlyle House (around \$300-500). The Carlyle House also requires that we work with their catering company (Great blue Heron). On the day of the event, we can begin setting up at 3:30pm. Kyly asked for Committee members to let her know if we can find local kids that are willing to play instruments (just a few songs) on the lawn. Another detail that still needs to be worked out is exactly what the signage will look like, noting that the language about what exactly the sponsorship will entail. No cover charge. For story time – book Dan and his son wrote. Lilies, bought wholesale, \$5 and \$10 for sprig or whole plant. Motion to donate \$300 for the use of the Carlyle House - None opposed. Motion for \$315 to cover the cost of the lilies - none opposed. Advertising – we have time to get event in newspaper. Laura also mentioned attending the flower show event the week prior to try to advertise. Bartenders will not handle cash – attendees will purchase chip and redeem it at the bar.
- C. Alumni Committee – Jennifer is cleaning up contact list of 68 former members to invite to events.
- D. Barkus – Kyly said we had approval to walk in Scottish parade in December.
- E. Open Floor – Alex’s mother passed away – we sent flowers. Alex thanked the Committee for the flowers. Alex has Henry Brooks’ (former ACSSC member) retirement gift.

## VII. Public Comment

## VIII. Adjournment

### 2022 Calendar

January – 1/29 Zoom Across the Atlantic  
February –  
March –  
April –  
May –  
June – 6/2 – D-Day Lecture, 6/4 – D-Day Event  
July –  
August –  
September –  
October –  
November – 11/17 Beaujolais Nouveau  
December –

### **ACSSC Member Attendees:**

Angelique Moss  
Allison Wynn

Scott Campbell  
Kyly Larriviere  
Laura Withers  
Elodie Guillon  
Jennie Reading  
Leslie Tourigny  
Steve Hartka  
Alexandre Jevgrafovs  
Ashley Harper-Johnson  
Dan Morrison  
Wesley Thomas

**Public Attendees:**

Joy Mills  
Antwon Lopez and Giselle