

Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2024
Alexandria City Hall – Room 1101

I. Welcome and Call to Order

In absence of ACSCC Chair Angelique Moss, ACSCC member Jennie Reading called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. when there was a quorum.

II. Approve Minutes From October

Prior to the meeting, Angelique sent committee members a link so that they could review the minutes posted from the October 7, 2024, meeting. At the November meeting, committee members unanimously approved the minutes as distributed.

III. Ongoing Business

A. Recap of Caen Delegation Visit

1. Welcome Reception 10/15 6 pm-7:30 pm

The Office of Historic Alexandria (OHA) sponsored a welcome reception at Josephine Brasserie and Bar for two officials from the city of Caen, Cécile Cottenceau (Deputy Mayor) and Noémie Dauchier (Chargée de mission Relations Internationales), who were visiting Alexandria to attend the city's Lafayette Bicentennial events. ACSCC members were invited so that they could meet these officials from our Sister City.

2. Private Welcome Dinner 10/15 7:30 pm-9pm

Following the reception, there was a dinner for a smaller group, which included ACSCC treasurer Stephen Hartka and Councilman John Chapman, who is the committee's City Council liaison.

B. Recap of Lafayette Bicentennial Events

Stephen provided a short recap of the events listed below:

1. Lafayette Reception & Book Lecture and Signing 10/16

2. Lafayette Dinner 10/17

The consensus of committee members was that all the events went well. Jim Holloway, liaison to ACSCC from OHA, thanked committee members for their volunteer support. He said that there will be one more Lafayette event on February 15, 2025, which is the day of the George Washington Birthday Parade. Jim pointed out that the bicentennial of Lafayette's trip to the United States continued into 1825.

C. Beaujolais Nouveau 11.21.24

Jennie updated the committee on the status of planning for the Beaujolais Nouveau event, pointing out that two-and-a-half weeks out, we were still looking for a caterer because our previous caterer is not available. Several committee members stepped forward to each contact a caterer to get proposals by Friday, November 8, 2024. Also, Jennie said that the advertising flyer would be sent out shortly. This, notwithstanding, she said we had already sold half of the event tickets. There was discussion that because of the quality of the signature events that

ACSCC presents, we have a very loyal following.

D. Cider Festival 11.23.24

Jim said that the city is holding the annual Cider Fest on the Saturday following Beaujolais Nouveau from 1-5 pm and would be using the temporary tent behind Lloyd House that will be set up for the Beaujolais event. Because hundreds of people attend the cider event and ACSCC hosts one of the community tables, Jim said they will need some volunteers from ACSCC to staff two shifts—from 12:30-3:00 p.m. and 3-5:30 p.m. Committee members Stephen Hartka, Alex Jevgrafovs, Sydney Johnson, Leslie Tourigny, Eric Trimble, and Kristi Washchull volunteered.

E. Scottish Walk 12.7.24

There was discussion about ACSCC marching in the Scottish Walk Parade again this year. ACSCC secretary Leslie Tourigny said that last year OHA Director Gretchen Bulova took care of the committee's registration and wondered if that was happening again this year. Jim said he would check on this.

F. Sister City Dinner 12.7.24

Jim said that as in the past, OHA was holding the Sister City Dinner at Lloyd House to honor the Lord Provost of Dundee, Scotland, who will be visiting Alexandria for the Scottish Walk Parade. Members of ACSCC will be receiving invitations to the dinner.

IV. New Business

A. Open Floor

There was no new business.

V. Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

VI. Adjournment

Jennie Reading adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

ACSCC Member Attendees in Person:

Candace Harman
Stephen Hartka
Alex Jevgrafovs
Sydney Johnson
Jennifer Reading
Timotheos Tan
Leslie Tourigny
Eric Trimble
Kristi Waschull

ACSCC Member Participating By Phone:

Karen Fasi Wilbur

City of Alexandria Government Liaison:

Jim Holloway, Office of Historic Alexandria

Public Attendees:

None

2024 Calendar

January – Alumni Party 1/6

February –

March –

April –

May – Jazz Spring Fête 5/4

June- D-Day Commemoration 6/2; D-Day Lecture 6/6

July –

August –

September –Liberation of Paris Event 9/14; Practice Lafayette Bicentennial Walking Tour 9/26

October – Lafayette Bicentennial Walking Tours 10/5-6; Reception & Book Lecture 10/16; Dinner 10/17

November – Beaujolais Nouveau 11/21; Cider Festival 11/23

December – Scottish Walk Parade 12/7; Sister City Dinner

Leslie Tourigny
ACSCC Secretary