

Alexandria Sister Cities Committee June '24 Meeting – Monday 17 June 2024

- Meeting held at City Hall, Sister Cities room; called to order at approximately ~7:10 pm
- Attendance
 - In-person: Eric Compton, Karen Parsons, Jennifer Eidemiller, Dale Medearis, Erin Rauner, Jose Mandujano, David Vondle, James Morrison, Kathryn Johnson, Mikke Norton, Diana Price, and Whitney Umarov (Office of Historic Alexandria)
 - Absent: Paul Anderson and Phil Dawit (both excused)
 - Guest: One member of public who is interested in possible future membership.
- May'24 minutes: Eric motioned, James seconded to approve minutes with one minor revision. Unanimously approved.
- Old Business
 - Eric led discussion of committee's participation in Alexandria's D-Day event. Erin offered to pull together some ideas for a general flyer about the committee's activities to use for future events. Possible swag items were also discussed.
 - Eric will confirm date for Dr. Jimmy McClellan's history lecture in November as a part of Alexandria's anniversary celebration.
 - Eric reported that Paul is continuing to pursue bringing Dundee tapestries exhibit to Alexandria.
 - David led discussion of committee's sponsored outing to upcoming US-Scotland Rugby match in Washington (Audi Field) on July 12.
 - Karen confirmed that, during the May meeting, the committee had decided to cancel its August meeting.
- New Business
 - Diana reported on her success in connecting the Alexandria Library to its counterpart in Helsingborg. They discussed various options on ways to interact. The first step will be to set up a trans-Atlantic book club (similar to one between the Alexandria and Dundee libraries). The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for September. The Helsingborg Library also expressed interest in exploring a future video project which would be a virtual tour guide between the two cities.
 - Discussed desirability and logistics of setting up a public calendar to advertise committee events as well as other relevant events in the Washington metro area that are related to the sister cities.
 - Discussed ways to interact more with students, including possibility of sponsoring a presentation by one or more Alexandria students who are attending college in Scotland. Committee also discussed possibility of recruiting a student liaison to the Sister Cities Committee to enhance facilitation of educational outreach activities.
 - Dale suggested that the committee should explore the possibility of leveraging state-collected tourism data to help direct some future committee-sponsored activities.
- Next meeting: Monday, July 15, at City Hall. There will be no meeting in August.
- Meeting adjourned: ~8:25 pm

KTP
Secretary
11 July 2024