

Alexandria Sister Cities Committee July '24 Meeting – Monday 15 July 2024

- Meeting held at City Hall; called to order at approximately ~7:08 pm
- Attendance
 - In-person: Eric Compton, Karen Parsons, Paul Anderson, Jennifer Eidemiller, Dale Medearis, Jose Mandujano, David Vondle, Mikke Norton, Phil Dawit, Diana Price, and Whitney Umarov (Office of Historic Alexandria)
 - Absent: James Morrison (excused), Erin Rauner, and Kathryn Johnson.
- June '24 minutes: Eric motioned, James seconded to approve minutes. Unanimously approved.
- Old Business
 - Helsingborg: Eric provided an update on misc. contacts and interactions related to Helsingborg, including a recent visit by the Alexandria Soccer Association's girls league to Helsingborg. Helsingborg is interested in exploring new educational exchanges, building on the positive experience they had in their recent visit to Alexandria and their opportunity to meet with Alexandria high school students.
 - Confirmation of date for Dr. Jimmy McClellan's history lecture on servitude in Scotland and the US. It is scheduled for November 14, 7 pm., at the Lyceum.
 - Dundee tapestries exhibit: Alexandria city officials have expressed initial interest in the effort to bring this exhibit to Alexandria. Gretchen Bulova, Director of the Office of Historic Alexandria, responded to the contact provided by the Sister Cities Committee and is working on the logistics.
 - Rugby: David reported on July 12 group outing to US-Scotland rugby game in Washington. A good time was had by all, in spite of Scotland's rather lopsided victory over the US.
 - Committee continued on-going discussions of misc. other topics, including the desirability of exploring new types of interactions with the sister cities and the need for a calendar to advertise committee-sponsored events as well as other local events related to Scotland and Sweden. Jenn will work with Eric on the calendar.
- New Business
 - Diana reported that the first meeting of the Trans-Atlantic Book Club with the Helsingborg Library will be October 8 at 1 pm EST.
 - Mikke suggested starting virtual cooking classes as a new idea for fundraising and different types of interactions with sister cities. She offered to do more research on this and report back to the committee so the committee can discuss different ideas.
- Next meeting: Monday, September 16, at City Hall. There will be no meeting in August.
- Meeting adjourned: ~8:25 pm

KTP
Secretary
16 August 2024