

## Alexandria Sister Cities Committee September '24 Meeting – Monday 16 September 2024

- Meeting held at City Hall; called to order at approximately ~7:08 pm
- Attendance
  - In-person: James Morrison, Erin Rauner, Jose Mandujano, Eric Compton, Jennifer Eidemiller, Phil Dawit, Mikke Norton, Diana Price, Martha Davis (NOVA Community College, Whitney Umarov (Office of Historic Alexandria), and Honorable John Chapman (Councilmember)
  - Absent: Dale Medearis (excused); Paul Anderson, Karen Parsons, and David Vondle
- July '24 minutes: Martha noted one minor issue to fix; Phil motioned, Jenn seconded to approve minutes w/ edit. Unanimously approved.
- Treasurer's Report – Phil and Whitney
- Remarks by Councilmember John Chapman
- Old Business
  - Student Representative Position – Eric and Jenn showed draft application and flyer for position. A few modifications were discussed. Erin motioned; Phil Seconded; Unanimously approved to go forward with seeking rep
  - Gyumri Status discussion – Eric briefed the committee as to current status of Gyumri and what we might do in the future. No consensus was reached.
  - Cooking events – Mikke briefed us on some options.
  - NoVa Community College updates- Martha discussed upcoming Lecture Nov. 14 and briefly mentioned status of programs with Dundee colleges
  - TransAtlantic Book Club – Diana mentioned first event with Helsingborg Library on Oct. 8.
  - Google Calendar – Jenn mentioned setting up and how to join
- New Business
  - Scottish Christmas Parade update – Eric discussed need to register and to plan for DATA members coming over
  - Sister Cities Updates – Eric discussed new officers for DATA; Alexandria Choir Society planned visit to Dundee in June '25 and Helsingborg student visit the week of Oct. 7-13
  - Cider Festival – Eric mentioned OHA invited our committee to be a part the event. Erin motioned; Jenn seconded; unanimously vote to accept invitation
  - Future Sister City Commitments – Discussion with John Chapman regarding future visits to sister cities in 2025-26, sister cities focal points here (e.g., park/plaques), artwork exchanges, and other possible initiatives
- Next meeting: Monday, October 21, at City Hall.
- Meeting adjourned: ~8:30 pm

EBC

Chair / Acting Secretary

10 October 2024