

Alexandria Sister Cities Committee November '24 Meeting – Monday 18 November 2024

- Meeting held at City Hall; called to order at approximately ~7:05 pm
- Attendance
 - In-person: Phil Dawit, Elisabeth Poppen, Carter Rice, Dale Medearis, Paul Anderson, Jennifer Eidemiller, Eric Compton, Whitney Omarov (Office of Historic Alexandria), Jose Mandujano, Diana Price
 - Excused Absence: James Morrison
 - On the Phone: Alejandro Perez-Reyes
 - Absent: Martha Davis (NOVA CC), Erin Rauner, Mikke Norton
- Introductions made for Carter Rice, Elisabeth Poppen, and Alejandro Perez-Reyes (via phone)
- September '24 minutes: Holding until the next meeting.
- Treasurer's Report (Phil)
 - FY 2026 City Budget – Whitney - Discussed how the budget works, who funds and how it's allocated.
- Old Business
 - Student Liaison Application – working on publicizing it further.
 - Dundee Tapestry – Victoria Albert Museum (current exhibit) – hand-embroidered patterns commemorating the history of Dundee, Scotland. They want to bring it to Alexandria, New York, and the UK Embassy.
 - Helsingborg Student Visit – for high school thesis investigated young people's thoughts on the election.
 - Dr. Jimmie McClellan's Lecture "Scots in Servitude" went well.
 - Thursday, 11/21/2024 - 1 PM Dundee, Scotland Book Club
 - Cider Festival at the Lloyd House (1-5 PM) – Rekorderlig (Swedish) cider will be poured. We need four people to attend.
 - TransAtlantic Book Club – Diana mentioned the next discussion would be November 21 at 1 PM for the short story "Thou Shalt Not Suffer a Witch" by Dorothy Haynes.
 - NoVA Community College updates – Martha (not in attendance)
 - Social Media (Jenn) – Send links and newsletter signups to the new committee members.
 - Branding update – Erin (not in attendance)
 - Swedish Cuisine – Mikke (not in attendance, but Jenn and now Erin copied). Working with the International Coordinator of the City of Helsingborg to secure some recipes to post on social media and use for an upcoming cooking class.
 - New Activities (Dale) – inventory and resources: Dale has begun to create a template and would like feedback on this. He will send this to the committee, and we'll discuss it in January.
 - Scottish Walk Activities
 - Thursday, 5th and Friday, 6th –
 - Days: Eric and Gretch are putting together the agenda/plan for meeting individuals.
 - Evenings:
 - Thursday, December 5th (7 PM) – Happy Hour
 - The Caen team, OHA City Staff, and DATA people will attend.
 - Motion \$1000 cap spend: Phil (Motioned), Jose (Seconded).
 - Friday, December 6th (6:30 PM – 10:30 PM) - Campagna Center – Taste of Scotland
 - Would like to send the DATA attendees. ASCC will need to pay for this. Pay for three tickets. Paul (Motioned), Jenn (Seconded).
 - Lady and Lord Provost were paid for VIP.
 - Saturday, December 7th –
 - The Parade (11 AM – 2 PM) – Eric registered us. We will be marching in the parade with the Caen committee members. James is attending a call about the parade. Visitors:
 - DATA Chair and his wife – Gary and Roz Langlands
 - DATA Vice Chair - Anne Cant

- Lord and Lady Provost of Dundee – Bill and Yvonne Campbell
 - Lunch - There will be an after-parade self-funded lunch.
 - OHA Dinner (7 PM—10 PM)
 - Sunday, December 8th – Brunch/Lunch
 - Will be a very small group – Eric, Paul, and maybe another.
- New Business
 - New Initiatives – Eric
 - Tuesday, January 14th – 1 PM Helsingborg Next Book Club
 - Saturday, March 29th – GW (Tartan Day)
 - 2025 Whisky Tasting – Saturday, April 26, 2025, was tentatively selected for the event at the Lyceum; will need to start planning soon
 - 2025 Planning – more Helsingborg events
- Next meeting: Monday, January 13, at Llyod House, 7 PM. Motion: Eric (primary), Jose (second)
- Meeting adjourned: ~8:45 pm

JLE

Secretary

18 November 2024