

Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee

Meeting Agenda

Monday, September 13, 2021

7:00 pm

City Hall Sister Cities Room 1101

I. Welcome and Call to Order - 7:12 pm

In attendance:

- Dan
- Holly
- Kerem
- Angelique
- Allison
- Jim (City of Alexandria staff liaison)
- Henry
- Mimi
- Scott
- Wesley

On the phone:

- Kyly
- Elodie
- Laura

II. Informal welcome back (in-person) and Introductions

III. Approve Minutes from July Meeting - Motion to approve – Mimi. Second – Wesley.

IV. Ongoing Business

- A. French Film Discussion – 9/16/21. Discussion - Should we move the date back? Elodie suggested we postpone. All in attendance agreed. New dates proposed – Elodie suggested November. November 4th.

What is the process for canceling/refunding tickets to those who have already purchased? Jim said to pick a new date first.

November 3th, 4th, 9th or 10th. *We decided on November 10th.*

- B. Sip & Sketch Event – 9/28/21- discussion of advertising for the event. Do we have a budget for advertising? Maximum number of people – 20. Minimum number of participants? Do we have a break-even number? 10.
Angelique will print some flyers and will add mask requirement and limited number of people to marketing materials.

- C. Lafayette Escadrille Documentary – 10/21/21 –

We will plan for a live event. We can possibly turn it into a virtual event. That way we can let more people join.

Laura started flyer. Post on Shop Alexandria.

We will see if there are any other ideas for marketing if needed.

- D. Beaujolais Nouveau Event – 11/18/21 – Capped at 20-25 for in-person. Maybe look at doing something at Gadsby's Tavern. If we end up not holding a public event, Holly would like us to drink all of the win amongst ourselves. ***Make final determination at the next meeting.***

- E. Budget Sub-Committee Update – need at least 4 members to be an official committee. Gauge interest – not much. Maybe rename as Advertising Committee. Or maybe Laura and Kyly just work together as an unofficial committee.

- F. Strategic Planning Sub-Committee Update – Minutes (attachment to these minutes) Did not explicitly include student exchange. No one is willing to commit to taking on the role or facilitating student exchanges at this time. Mission statement was approved unanimously.

****Note from Jim on subcommittees, if three or more of us are discussing Committee business, we must take notes (Freedom of Information Act rule) and should be publicly advertised****

V. **New Business**

- A. Update Volunteer Hours.
- B. Scott's Caen Visit – might bring pictures next time.
- C. Social Media – let Angelique know if you'd like to help post events on social media.
- D. Open Floor - none.

VI. **Public Comment** – none.

VII. **Adjournment** – 8:54pm

2021 Calendar

January – 1/7 Lindsay Chervinsky Lecture

February – 2/4 French Chef Demo

March – 3/16 Jennifer Paxton Lecture

April –

May –

June – 6/3-4 D-Day Lectures

July – 7/10 Summer Cookout

August –

September – 9/16 French Film Discussion, 9/28 Sip & Sketch Event

October – 10/21 Lafayette Escadrille Documentary Discussion

November – 11/18 Beaujolais Nouveau Tasting

December –

Attachment – Mission Statement Subcommittee Report

Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee Mission Statement Subcommittee Report July 19, 2021

Foundational Authorities:

There are two foundational authorities for the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee: the Mission Statement of Sister Cities International and the City of Alexandria Code of Ordinances. If a signed agreement between Alexandria and Caen exists we were unable to access it.

- Mission Statement of Sister Cities International: “To promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation—one individual, one community at a time.”¹
- City of Alexandria Code of Ordinances:²

“The functions, powers and duties of the [Alexandria-Caen Sister City] committee shall be to advise and support the city and the city council as to:

- (1) economic development and tourism programs, academic/educational student and staff exchanges, arts and cultural program exchanges, and professional health program exchanges, between the City of Alexandria, Virginia and the City of Caen, France, and the residents thereof;
- (2) to do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the responsibilities expressly given in this subsection; and
- (3) such other tasks as may be requested by the city council.”

Proposed Mission Statement:

“As part of Sister Cities International, the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee promotes friendship and cooperation³ between Alexandria and Caen through educational, cultural,⁴ commercial,⁵ and professional exchanges and activities.”

This breaks down into the following categories of activities:

- Educational: such as lecture programming in Alexandria on French/Norman/Caen topics.
- Cultural: such as the D-Day commemorative program and the Beaujolais Nouveau program
- Commercial: No current activities.
- Professional: No current activities.

Submitted by the Mission Statement Subcommittee:

- Kyly Larriviere, chair
- Kerem Bilge
- Elodie Guillon
- Allison Wynn

¹ <https://sistercities.org/about-us/>

² City of Alexandria Code of Ordinances, Chapter 4, Article S, Section 2-4-141 (a) 1-3.

³ “Friendship and cooperation” is a condensation of the theme from the Sister Cities International mission statement.

⁴ “Cultural” includes the arts, which are explicitly mentioned in the City Code.

⁵ “Commercial” is a way of including “economic development and tourism” from the City Code

⁶ “Exchanges and activities” shows the two types of programs we do.