

Jasper Partnership and Pfaffenweiler Partnership Commissions

Meeting Minutes 2/12/2021

7:30 am – Pfaffenweiler Room

ROLL CALL

Max Verkamp

Mayor

Lisa Bower

Stan Jochum (via phone)

Kim Lottes

Gina Schuetter

Sandy Wehr

Matthias Hilger

Mary Leah Seigel

Kyle Rupert

CALL TO ORDER / MINUTES

Max called the meeting to order at 7:33am.

Kim made the motion to accept the minutes from the July 31, 2020 Partnership Commission meeting. Mayor Vonderheide seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Member Update

Went over the reappointment for 2021: Kim Lottes and Stan Jochum have agreed to serve on the Partnership Commission for the next three years. Their terms will expire at the end of 2023. Both have been sworn in.

Welcomed Gina Schuetter to the Partnership Commission. Gina will fill Sean Jochum's term as Sean resigned from the Partnership Commission. Mayor Vonderheide made a motion to accept Gina on the commission. Kim Lottes seconded the motion. The motioned carried.

Lisa Bower continues as Recording Secretary. Max Verkamp remains President and Stan Jochum will remain Vice President of the Partnership Commission, Kim Lottes made the motion and Mayor Vonderheide seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Financial Report

Funds are held by Sister Cities, Inc. The Treasurer is Matthias Hilger.

The Strassenfest Committee and the Jasper Deutscher Verein provide \$750 yearly to the Partnership Commission. These funds are intended to cover expenses incurred in hosting the Pfaffenweiler group during their Jasper visit every 10 years to celebrate the anniversary of the Partnership. These expenses will include things like bus transportation, gifts, meals, etc. These funds will also cover the cost of gifts presented to Pfaffenweiler when a group from Jasper visits Pfaffenweiler in celebration of the Partnership. We showed our appreciation since 2020 was a year lots of events were cancelled.

Max presented the 2020 Expenses. Kim Lottes made a motion to approve as presented and Gina Schuetter seconded the motion. The motion carried.
See attached for the report.

Artisan/Craft Exchange

Jon Eckerle reached out to Sister Cities of Jasper stating the Eckerle Family Foundation is searching for organizational initiatives that may represent a high priority or unmet need through Sister Cities of Jasper with Pfaffenweiler.

Between Matthias Hilger, Sandy Wehr, and Mary Leah Siegel there have been multiple discussions.

Jon Eckerle's history of donations from the Family Foundations is this: \$20,000 for JHS Student Exchange. This money was split and \$10,000 went to help students and the other \$10,000 went into the foundation to grow.

On November 18, 2020 Dieter Hahn and Mayor Vonderheide discussed art exchange before or around the Christmas season. Two weeks later, John Eckerle reached out. Sister Cities then came up with a presentation for Jon. See attached document in email.

Dieter Hahn and Mayor Vonderheide's discussion was to bring in one or two artisans around Christmas time and have them sell their products in storefronts or around the square somehow. Dieter Hahn really like the idea, shared the idea with some, and now has a couple interested from Pfaffenweiler.

The idea was mentioned to the Arts Commission and they liked the idea as well. Kyle Rupert joined the meeting and mentioned there is plenty of room in the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center. The artisans could set up and make their craft/art. The artisans could show our community how things are made while here as well. Then possibly sell in at local merchants and the gift shop in the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center.

A few points discussed:

- Be in Jasper from November 11-December 18
- Two artisans
- When artisans go to Pfaffenweiler they would stay with the family they hosted in Jasper possibly
- Keep it to Jasper only – do no need to go to Huntingburg and Ferdinand events
- Possibly Jasper goes to Pfaffenweiler at a different time of the year
- Will need to determine the artist to determine the cost
- Should have two artists travel together
- Are their grants available to help with costs if the Eckerle Family Foundation does not like this exchange or we need more money
- We will need to have another meeting to discuss the point person from Partnership Commission since there were three members missing
- Would like to start this fall/winter of 2021 – if needed we can push out

Finance:

- Help host family
- Sponsor artisan
- Flights
- Transportation
- Stipend

Mary Leah, Sandy, and Matthias will get numbers together and present to Jon. Jon will then go to the Board of Directors to get the support. Matthias will work on getting a meeting schedule with Dieter Hahn and Mayor Vonderheide to work out more details.

Mural exchange in our local museums (Jasper and Pfaffenweiler) would also be a good future project to think about.

37th Anniversary Trip Celebrating the Sister Cities Partnership

We are looking at the 35th Anniversary Trip to be moved to 2022, which means it would be the 37th Anniversary Trip.

If we go in 2022 it would overlap with the JHS student exchange to Pfaffenweiler. This would most likely mean more interests for parents and families to take the trip and the students could also join the celebration.

This summer would be the ideal time to start promoting. Signage at the Strassenfest and the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center are a few options.

Max will reengage with Jackie's Travel to see what the trip would look like. He will bring back to the commission to share.

Ross and Sandy will stay in touch on the actual dates.

We can share SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 2020 with details to follow at a later date.

Other Business

Kim Lottes motioned to adjourn the meeting. Gina Schuetter seconded.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be after Mayor Vonderheide and Buergermeister Dieter Hahn meet via Zoom.