

MINUTES OF THE SISTER CITIES COMMISSION

April 11, 2018

The members of the Sister Cities Commission met for their regular meeting on Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 1:00 pm at Danville City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Milton Reigelman and, upon roll call, the following members were documented as either present or absent:

PRESENT

Milton Reigelman, Chair
Nick Wade
Russ Goodwin
Mary Beth Touchstone
Liz Orndorff
Jane Dewey

ABSENT

Jane Boyd
Gail Louis
Laura Jack
Georgia de Araujo
Ray Hammond

Guests: Brandon Long and Arianna Gorton. The Chair declared a quorum of the 11 current members.

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. The April minutes were unanimously approved. The chair reported that \$300 had been sent to Pioneer Playhouse to help subsidize the housing for the two Irish actors in *The Return of Tinker Doyle*; this amount was a compromise between those who thought \$500 was appropriate and those who did not. Later in the meeting Michelle Gosser attended to confirm that payment and receiving the new Sponsor and Benefactor checks.

The Chair then passed around a current list of the 27 SC Sponsors and the 24 SC Benefactors. The total received so far is \$3,850 (plus the significant in-kind gift Ray Hammond will make at the Irish Whiskey Tasting). This amount is the highest Sister Cities has ever raised in its annual fund drive.

We then turned our attention to Brandon Long, who will leave for Northern Ireland as our exchange artist in a month. We discussed the full schedule he's been sent and gifts he might carry with him: 10 copies of GABBF posters he's designed, Danville, Kentucky lapel pins, and cd's by Eddie Montgomery. Brandon was encouraged to get in contact with Joe Rocks, who along with Rosalind Lowery, will probably be his primary contacts there. The Chair will e-mail him the names and positions of people in Carrickfergus and Ballymena he will probably meet. SC will reimburse him for any gifts he presents.

The longest discussion of the meeting concerned exchange artist Dee Craig's visit in the fall. Mary Beth, who is the point person with Dee, reported about her correspondence with Dee and

her discussions with different Danville people about his visit. She and Milton yesterday spent time with Thad Overmeyer, owner of the handsome Beer Engine building. Their recommendation, if Dr. Overmeyer approves, is to seek permission from the Architectural Heritage Board to install a SC mural on the South side of his building. If Dr. Overmeyer doesn't approve, their alternate recommendation would be the South side of the Elmwood Inn Tea building next door, a space on which the Richardsons would like to have a mural. We discussed further questions Mary Beth should ask Dee, who has created murals both by painting on brick walls and by apply sections of canvas to walls. Our timeline would be:

1. To get Dee's approval of the space,
2. To seek conditional approval from the AHB, and

3. To work with Dee on the subject of the mural. Jane Dewey has suggested that Shelly Stinnett, the art teacher at DHS, and her students would be a good resource for Dee to work with while he's in residence. Brandon suggested that the Community Arts Center might be the best place for Dee to conduct a mural workshop for local artists. We will also have a formal reception for him to meet the community at the Evans-Lively Room in Centre's Old Carnegie building.

Liz Orndorff has finished the rewrite of *The Return of Tinker Doyle*. She confirmed that sponsors or benefactors who wish can be part of a crowd scene on Tuesday, June 12th, the SC night at Pioneer Playhouse. Sponsors and Benefactors should let the Playhouse know of their SC sponsorship when they book tickets for the 12th. They will then pay \$29 for the \$32 regularly charged for the dinner and show plus the 6:30 \$21 Irish Whiskey Tasting with Ray Hammond. Nick has slotted in Kieran Cunningham and Rickie O'Neill to play the first hour at the Heart of Danville Thursday night entertainment, while they are here. Besides other possible downtown venues for their performances (JB's, Plank, Pizza & Pub), it's possible they could perform at one of the Perryville Furniture Store's sessions. Liz will seek more information from Mimi Becker about this possibility.

We voted unanimously to recommend to the City Commission that Mary Jo Bowling and Brandon Long become new members of our Commission: we currently have 10 members (plus secretary Rachel White and affiliate member Arianna Gorton), meaning that we have two open slots.

Our next meeting will be at our regular time and place on the regular second Wednesday of the month: May 9. The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Milton Reigelman, Chairman