

City of Keene
New Hampshire

PARTNER CITY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

4:30 PM

City Hall, Second Floor Conference Room

Members Present

Chair Tom Link
Kathy Frink, Treasurer
Dawn Thomas-Smith
Wally Secord
Ken Meola, Police Chief
Irene Davis, Vice Chair
Lilly Hart
John Mitchell

Staff Present

Helen Mattson, Executive Assistant

Members Not Present

Karen Parsells
Antje Hornbeck

Others Present

1. Call to Order

Chair Link called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

2. Roll Call –Appoint Alternates (if required)

Roll call was conducted.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting: April 7, 2015

A motion was made to approve the minutes from April 7, 2015. Two corrections were pointed out by Irene Davis: Board Business, item “c” on page 2, change VBS to BBS and under item “f” on page 3, 3rd paragraph, last sentence, the spelling of “Yurgen” to “Jürgen”, after which the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

4. Board Business

a) Sharing Community News – media connections – Paul Miller

Chair Link stated that Mr. Miller will be attending the next meeting to discuss sharing Community News with Einbeck.

b) Fund Raising Event – Stonewall Farm – Subcommittee’s report

No update at this time due to Ms. Parsells’ absence.

c) Police, Fire & Public Works Exchange (*Delegates visiting Einbeck*) – Update

Ms. Davis stated that the Mayor and City Manager are expected to arrive in Einbeck at 5:00 PM. Chair Link stated that they will arrive the day before the festival, on Thursday. Ms. Davis stated that Einbeck is able to host ten visitors. Chair Link stated that the Committee will give a number to Einbeck as soon as possible. Chair Link stated that the Police and Fire personnel visiting Einbeck is very important. He continued, stating that the Einbeck Fire Department is all volunteer. Ms. Davis stated that Mr. Thormann questioned how Fire and Police personnel would feel about staying with host families in Einbeck. Chair Link stated that the last time Police and Fire personnel went to Einbeck they stayed with host families.

d) School Exchange – Keene/Einbeck – John

Mr. Mitchell stated that there has been progress and two committees have formed. He continued, stating that one group consists of students and the other consists of adults. Mr. Mitchell stated that soccer players have also discussed their past experiences with exchange. He continued, stating that Einbeck students have sent over biographies for review. Mr. Mitchell stated that no activities will occur when they arrive but on the October 25, 2015 a formal welcoming event may occur at Heberton Hall. Mr. Mitchell stated that a Going Away Event will also occur at Stonewall Farms. He continued, stating that help will be needed on transportation and events.

Chair Link asked if the work portion of the exchange will be done every day and made part-time or will the students have a full-time schedule. Mr. Mitchell stated that currently students will attend school for a week and attend a work facility for a week. Chair Link asked if Mr. Mitchell would like a subcommittee to assist in preparing for the exchange. Mr. Mitchell replied yes. Chair Link stated that he would be willing to assist as well as Ms. Davis and Ms. Hart. He continued, stating that Mr. Mitchell can set up a meeting time that will work for everyone.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the students going to Einbeck from Keene will be from the Vocational school. Chair Link stated some possible places to have students attend work study. Ms. Davis suggested students visit New York City. Mr. Mitchell stated that no one has

asked to go to a large city yet. Ms. Thomas Smith asked about specific dates for the exchange. Mr. Mitchell stated that it will be from October 25-November 13.

Ms. Davis made the motion to accept the item as informational. Ms. Thomas-Smith seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

e) Band exchange – The Mendelssohn School/Keene

Chair Link stated that Ms. Hornbeck talked with representatives of the Waldorf School and they expressed interest in the band exchange. He continued, stating that their ideal time would be the Spring of 2016. Chair Link stated that Ms. Hornbeck will continue to pursue this contact and see if details can be worked out. Chair Link stated that Ms. Hornbeck requested to talk with Mr. Kampa. He continued stating that he gave permission but requested that Ms. Hornbeck not make any plans yet. Chair Link stated that Mr. Jim Logan will not be able to assist in this exchange.

f) Facebook page – social media – Lilly & Dawn

Ms. Thomas-Smith stated that she emailed the completed form to Chair Link. Chair Link stated that he did not receive it. Ms. Thomas-Smith stated that she will resend it.

Mr. Mitchell made a motion to accept the item as informational. Chief Meola seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

g) Signs for Public awareness of Einbeck/Keene partnership

Ms. Mattson stated that she spoke with Mayor Lane about the Committee's interest in placing Keene/Einbeck signs in the downtown. His suggestion was that a letter be submitted to City Council which states the interest of the Partner City Committee to have signs in the downtown that let people know about Keene's partnership with Einbeck, Germany. It also might be a good idea to give the exact locations the committee has in mind and a design sample of the sign. She continued, stating that after the request is presented to City Council, it will be referred to committee for further review. Chair Link stated that a simple sign coming into Keene would be best. Chair Link asked if the Committee is in agreement to him sending a letter to City Council. All Committee members agreed.

Ms. Thomas-Smith made a motion to accept the item as informational. Ms. Frink seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

5. Communications:

6. Reports:

a.) Treasurer Report – Kathy Frink

Ms. Frink stated that the account is still at \$16, 525.90. Chair Link asked if there are still two accounts. Ms. Frink replied, yes, the other account is at \$0.

7. New Business:

None at this time.

8. Next Meeting: Next meeting date: June 9th, 2015

9. More Time:

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:03.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lana Bluege, Minute-taker, May 12, 2015