

Sister Cities Association of Salisbury/Wicomico County
Minutes of the April 1, 2010 Meeting

Place: Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce

Attending: Chair George Whitehead, SU Intern Jennifer Mjake and her friend Susanne Hopkins, Mayor James Ireton, new member Gerry Wood, Cindy Feist, Brian Stiegler, Therese Hamilton, Bryan Burrows-McElwain, and Marion Keenan

Minutes of February 22 meeting: Distributed via email prior to meeting. Accepted by general consent.

Tartu, Estonia: Brian Stiegler (SU) and Bryan Burrows-McElwain (UMES) presented a DVD on the history of Tartu to Mayor Ireton. The history is based on the recollections of a noted Tartu architect, appointed by the city in 1926. He recalled his initial view of Tartu and the changes that came over the years. The interview was filmed in the late 1980's. Much of the footage, however, is of the times generally around WWI and representing the architect's memory of Tartu and his responsibilities and challenges as city architect at that time.

The group viewed much of the DVD.

Mayor Ireton compared the featured Tartu architect with Salisbury's own former town engineer, Pete Cooper. Now 99 years old, he remains energetic, engaged with the city, active, and a valuable source of information to local officials about the city and its public works

The two Tartu films shown locally, one at SU and the other at the Salisbury Film Society were discussed.

Salisbury, UK: Simon Maher visited March 20 – 23. We took him to dinner at Escapes restaurant Saturday evening, March 20. He toured the city, taking photos on Sunday and that afternoon there was a reception at Poplar Hill in his honor. The following morning the Daily Times featured the event on its front page. He was introduced to the City Council on March 22 and warmly welcomed by all its members. Mayor Ireton presented him with a plaque from our City and Simon described to the Council his journey to American Salisburys.

Marion Keenan noted that Simon's blog has news and photos of his trip. She also offered to get DVDs and CDs of music and plastic art from Salisbury to add to our archives.

Treasurer's Report: Cindy Feist reported that there has been no change in our account since the last meeting.

Cultural Arts:

We are still in the process of having a chorale performance to film for DVD or CD presentation to Tartu. Doug Smith, Salisbury Chorale, and others are working on this with Therese. We hope to have the performance aired on PAC 14 as well.

Therese Hamilton expressed continued interest in working with June Krell Salgado at SU.

Agreed to show the Tartu DVD during May's 3rd Friday (May 21), possibly at the Chamber of Commerce. Cindy will discuss with Chamber Exec. Dir. The following month (June 18) we could feature Salisbury UK. Marion will get the material from Salisbury UK.

Agreed that our archives of such music and film would be best stored at our County Library.

Salisbury, NC: Cheerwine launched. Product available at this meeting.

Web site: Changed to www.salisburysistercities.org

Education:

The Education Subcommittee meets April 26 at 10:00 at the Board of Education.

No report on St. Francis de Sales school or one of our public schools contacting the Catholic school in Salisbury, England, desiring a partner school here.

Brief report on the three student teachers expected in fall from China's Anhui Province.

Spring Intern: Jennifer is preparing International Salisbury video highlighting our various ethnic communities. These include Korean, Chinese, Middle Eastern, & Latin American resident communities, as well as those of African and European descent. Tartu, Salisbury UK, and our Chinese friendship city will be featured as well.

2010 meetings: Set for the 1st Thursday of each month. Confirmed for May 4 at 4 PM.

Submitted by Marion Keenan