

Sister Cities Association of Salisbury/Wicomico County
Board of Directors
Minutes of the August 12, 2010 Meeting

Began: 4 PM in the Government Office Building, 3rd Floor

Adjourned: About 5:10 PM

Attending: Bryan Burrows-McElvain, Tom Welsh, Cindy Feist, Brian Stiegler, Therese Hamilton, Ernest Borger, George Whitehead, Marion Keenan and guest Douglas Smith.

Minutes of the June 9 Meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Dues to Sister Cities International have been paid and we have \$112.50 remaining.

George Whitehead thanked Board members who contributed; further contributions may be made to our association through the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Tom noted that with a larger distribution list we could solicit donations via the Web.

SSA and Salisbury Third Fridays: Our June 18 Salisbury UK exhibit at the C of C drew about nine interested visitors who watched the videos and examined the displays. Joe DiCarlo, who has been in both Tartu and Salisbury UK was among them. [Joe also has been an official tour guide.] The Board agreed to invite Joe to join the Board.

George will contact him.

The next SSA third Friday feature will promote the Chamber's "go green" initiative. George Whitehead will staff our Sister Cities exhibit. Marion will forward the Salisbury UK DVD to him.

Website: George thanked Tom Welsh for creating the site www.salisburysistercities.org and for keeping it current. Tom encouraged Board members to contribute content and to contribute distribution list names and email addresses so that we might communicate information and our programs more effectively. We will seek names for a contact list at "Singing to My Sister."

Salisbury UK: Marion reported on Julian and Mrs. Kathy Thomas' August 7-10 visit. Minister of the Salisbury United Reform Church, Rev. Thomas spoke at August 8 services at Wicomico Presbyterian Church. Following a reception there, Marion took Julian and Kathy to Newtown, the Ward Museum and park, lunch at her home, UMES and the Teackle Mansion.

The next morning several Board members and St. Francis de Sales School Principal Jude De Lucco were present in Council Chambers as Mayor Ireton exchanged official greetings. After touring downtown, Marion took Julian and Kathy to visit St. Francis de Sales School, where they spoke with Mrs. De Lucco, several teachers, and Pastor Ed Aigner. George and Marion then took them on a tour of SU. Rev. Glenn Catley gave a tour of Asbury United Methodist Church. That evening, several Board members and spouses took Julian and Kathy to dinner. They departed for Salisbury NC the next morning.

Marion discussed her September 19-25 visit to Salisbury UK and our liaison there, Jan Cardy. Marion has materials from Asbury UMC for the Methodist church there, will bring things from St. Francis de Sales School to St. Joseph's School, and offered to bring materials from other faith communities and organizations. She will show our web site.

Tartu, Estonia: Singing to My Sister is set for September 11 from **2 to 4** PM in SU's Great Hall (Holloway Hall). Douglas Smith was thanked for his efforts to prepare this concert for Tartu, Estonia.

There was extended discussion about logistics. The 2 PM start will allow time for visiting dignitaries to be introduced and perhaps say a few words, for choir members to perform and meet Estonian singers and dancers before having to leave for a later performance, for any performance by Estonian visitors and/or National Guard, and for a reception in the Social Room.

Brian Stiegler has made room reservations, has arranged for technical equipment, will arrange for the reception and agreed to the Board's request to moderate the event. However, since the SU intern to SSA is responsible for certain tasks, he will not micro-manage those. Douglas Smith plans to be there with the choir by at least 1 PM. The room is reserved from noon to 6 and might be open for earlier set-up or rehearsal.

As MC, Brian Stiegler will open with a few words about Sister Cities. Cindy Feist and Brian Burrows-McElvaine will distribute our SSA brochures at the door to the Great Hall. There will be display tables in the Social Room for Estonian, SU, and SSA items, photos, flyers, etc. At noon the Maryland Estonian Exchange Council will be at SU Dining Room.

It was agreed to bill the event as sponsored by the Sister Cities Association of Salisbury/Wicomico County in collaboration with SWAC and SU.

SU International Students: The Mayor will greet the students and perhaps present them with keys on September 21 at 4 PM in Council Chambers. George noted that this event has been greatly appreciated in the past. Board members are encouraged to attend and this event will be our September meeting.

October meeting: To be determined among Board members present September 21.

Submitted by: Marion Keenan