

Sister Cities Association of Salisbury/Wicomico County
Minutes of the November 10, 2010 Meeting

Place: Government Office Building

Attending: Chair George Whitehead, St. Francis de Sales School Vice Principle Debra Traum, Cindy Feist, and Marion Keenan. Mayor Ireton and his assistant were present during the Sing for My Sister DVD viewing.

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

Tartu, Estonia: Viewed substantial portion of the Singing to My Sister DVD and discussed the event. Consensus that it was not only quite successful, but also very moving. The event has been dedicated to Doug Smith, who died suddenly just days after the performance. When DVDs are duplicated we will give copies to those who requested them, which will require well over 30 copies. Will present to the Estonian Ambassador to the U.S, as well. Additionally, we will try to have it put on YouTube so that it can be accessed by Estonians and others interested in viewing it.

Salisbury, UK: George reported on his introduction of Marion at Asbury United Methodist Church's Anniversary service on Sunday, November 7. He noted that Rev. Malcolm Hickox had played at the next Sunday's service one of the CDs of Asbury's choir music that Marion had presented to him in England. At Asbury Marion presented from Rev. Hickox and his congregation, Salisbury UK Methodist Church, a bone china plate designed for its 250th anniversary in 2009, a booklet on Coke and worldwide Methodism, church publications and flyers. She also referenced the stunning silk Creation Embroidery and the warmth with which she and her husband were received at a prayer service, reception, and luncheon. Communication continues with church members. See salisburymethodist.org.uk. She spent two mornings at the two Catholic schools in Salisbury UK, St. Osmund's for younger students and St. Joseph's for older students but both reflecting the grade levels at St. Frances de Sales. She had presented letters from the St. Francis de Sales School children to the children at St. Joseph's. On Friday, she will present to St. Francis de Sales School materials from both of the Salisbury UK Catholic schools. She will also report on her conversations with the UK children. There was much discussion about how the children could continue their transatlantic communication and Debra Taum will take these ideas back to St. Francis and lead the communication between SFDS and St. Osmund's and St. Joseph's. Marion and her husband spent two days with Rev. Julian and Kathy Thomas, the couple who visited last August. Julian is a United Reform minister and he had addressed our Wicomico Presbyterian Church here. Friendly with St. Osmund's Pastor, Father Fitzpatrick, Julian arranged a visit with him. Email addresses have been shared between Fr. Aigner of St. Francis de Sales and Fr. Fitzpatrick. Now that at least three local and UK faith communities have established communication, Marion recommended that we now engage the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Further faith

community correspondence would also be beneficial, as would communication between civic clubs.

[Although not discussed at the meeting, Rotary Club communications have occurred over the years. Additionally, while in Salisbury, England Marion met with last spring's Sister City guest here, Simon Maher, at the Tourist office where he works. Simon's film on the US Salisburys was soon to be featured in the Salisbury UK library.]

Treasurer's Report: Cindy Feist reported \$75 remaining in our account after our Sister Cities dues were paid.

Cultural Arts: Included in the Tartu report, above.

Salisbury, NC: No report

Web site: 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.

Intern: Focused on making the DVD and having it duplicated. A second intern will be engaged to make the International Salisbury film. George might also recruit a third intern for other duties.

Next meeting: Confirmed for Wednesday, December 8, at 4 PM.

Submitted by Marion Keenan