

Sister Cities Association of Salisbury/Wicomico County

Minutes of the December 1, 2014 Meeting

Began: 4:00 PM in Government Office Building Conference Room 306. **Ended:** 4:55 PM.

Attending: Marion Keenan, Tom Welsh, Tony Russo, George Whitehead, Ernest Boger, and Carole Champagne

Minutes: November 3, 2014 Minutes were approved. They are posted on our website.

Treasurer's report: no report

Fall 2014 Intern Report: Madelyn was unable to attend but has been meeting with Marion and is working on the Newsletter. Tony and Marion will complete their articles for it.

Third Friday: Madelyn had a booth for us on November 21 and distributed our information and sweet treats to those who stopped by. Tony sent photos of Madelyn's Chinese Rice Pouch Jacks game which many enjoyed. SU International Students may participate in future Third Fridays. We can share our space and coordinate activities with them. The Delmar High School Culinary Club and Tony's students will make Estonian gingerbread for December 19. [December 3rd Friday subsequently canceled.]

Dalian, China: Tom will contact Dalian to determine if the city is ready or willing to convert from Friendship City status to Sister City status. He will research Sister City International's website and contact information links before Salisbury formally contacts Dalian officials.

Tartu, Estonia: Tony's students are regularly posting photos to the Instagram account. He said the account is anonymous, so the Wicomico Public Library Teen Advisory Board can post photos without tracing them to specific students. The Instagram accounts are @tartusalisbury and @sistercitiesmim. Students will send photos of their gingerbread baking and December Holiday Third Friday.

Salisbury, England: Marion sent an online article in November about plans for a technical university. Salisbury is the only medieval cultural center in the U.K. without a university.

Latin America: We have not progressed with Cuenca, Ecuador. George will check with his Peruvian contacts. Bernita Harris, Minister of Asbury United Methodist Church, leads annual mission trips to Peru. Tom and John Knorr of Evo and Sobo's operate a restaurant in Guatemala. Tony will contact them.

Website: Tom will update October and November events. Tony will send photos of August dedication of Sister Cities Pole at the Shorebirds Stadium and also his Third Friday photos.

2015 Meetings: Meeting dates were changed back to 1st Tuesdays of the month. Since Marion will miss the February, May and June meetings. John Hickman will chair them and he will also supervise our new intern.

Future Topics: We will ask Mayor Ireton about including dues as a city budget item when he meets with the Salisbury City Council. Cathy requested that a Chamber member give a short presentation (about five minutes) at its next General Membership Meeting. George and/or Marion may attend the event.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 4:00 PM **Submitted by:** Carole Champagne