

City of Keene
New Hampshire

PARTNER CITY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

5:00 PM

**2nd Floor Conference Room,
City Hall**

Members Present:

John Mitchell, Chair
William Schoefmann, Vice Chair
Gerald Lins
Mari Brunner
Councilor Andrew Madison
Doris McCollester
Derek Blunt

Staff Present:

Nicole Howe, Executive Assistant

Members Not Present:

George Hansel
Michael Giacomo
Gregg Kleiner

1) Call to Order

Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

2) Roll Call – Appoint Alternates (if required)

Roll call was conducted.

3) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Schoefmann made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 13, 2024. Mr. Lins seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

4) New Business

- a) Pumpkin Fest (October 12th) – Further Discussion/Volunteers (have established 6) And Last Minute Housing Keeping**

Mr. Schoefmann stated he checked with Aldi and the prices are listed on the committee's packet. The products are scheduled to arrive by Friday October 11 and arrangements have been made to pick up the items on Saturday. Bratwurst the cheapest would be a 12 pack; the manager wasn't sure they would be able to get the 12 pack. The other option would be units of five and the

festival would need 100 packs and the cost would be \$379. Hotdogs would be 100 at a cost of approximately \$100. Buns are going to be at a cost of \$108 (624 buns).

Ms. Brunner asked whether the Bratwurst could be priced at \$5.00 to make it easier for cash flow. The committee agreed. The committee decided on a price of \$3.00 for hotdogs and \$2.00 for drinks.

A motion was made by Mari Brunner that the Partner City Committee spend up to \$1,000 on supplies for Pumpkin Festival. The motion was seconded by Andrew Madison and passed by unanimous vote.

Mari Brunner left at 5:08 P.M.

The committee went over other items they needed for the festival: condiments, gloves, napkins, grills, ice, folding tables, plastic forks.
Set up for the event was planned for 10 am.

5) Board Business

a) Update on Recent Dance Exchange

Ms. Kristen Leach provided an update on the dance exchange. She indicated the dancers arrived in Keene on Wednesday, they toured the downtown on Thursday. The dancers had a sample class at Moco Dance Studio and they also participated in rehearsal with NHDI every evening. They attended school with their respective host families on Friday and attended an NHDI show in Saxtons River, VT. The dancers hiked Mount Monadnock on Saturday and attended Cider Fest where they were able to make cider. On Sunday the students were taken to an animal sanctuary and they had a dance rehearsal followed by an informal performance, and bonfire at one of the host family's home. Monday they left via Fitchburg to Boston and will be leaving to go back to Einbeck on Wednesday of this week.

b) Einbeck Exchange – Final Discussion of Travel Plans – October 10th – October 19th

The committee review their itinerary and the different places they will be visiting.

They talked about the reception with the Mayor. The group will spend a day in Hanover to visit the parliament.

Visit to an art paper factory which is a subsidiary of Schleicher and Schuell – a company that used to be located in Keene who started this exchange program.

Ms. Leach talked about her representation on this trip on behalf of the Rotary Club and how that was going to be handled; for her dance was the bridge to representing the Rotary Club.

The Chair indicated the Pumpkin Festival proceeds goes towards the proceeds for this trip and encouraged Ms. Leach to help at this event next year.

Ms. Leach asked whether the group travelling to Germany would be involved in any service project. The committee answered in the negative.

c) Update of Student Exchange – Derek

Not Discussed

d) Update of Future Exchange – Soccer Youth Exchange – John

Not Discussed

6) Communications

a) Peace Fountain at Central Square

Not Discussed

b) Purchase of Keene/Einbeck lapel pins

Not Discussed

7) Reports

a) Treasurer Report – Gregg

Not Discussed

8) Next Meeting: Next Meeting is November 12, 2024

9) More Time

a) Fundraising Ideas/Opportunities

There being no further business, Chair Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Krishni Pahl, Minute Taker

Reviewed and edited by,
Nicole Howe, Staff Liasson