

Sister Cities Association of Salisbury and Wicomico County
September 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

Present: John Hickman, George Whitehead, Gerry Wood, Nate Sansom, Kelsey Norton, Marion Keenan, Carole Champagne

Kelsey introduced herself. She is a Communications Major with a Public Relations Track, and Art Minor. She will design a trifold for the Third Friday on September 17. She showed examples of street art from Tartu. Examples of art forms from our Sister Cities will be shown.

Reports and updates:

Dalian, China: Nate said that Pinehurst Elementary School 5th graders will be virtual pen pals with Chinese students in Dalian schools. Nate and Acting Mayor Julia Glanz met virtually with Vice Mayor Fang and Dalian government officials virtually in April. Dalian requested to be an official Sister City with Salisbury. Officials established an official agreement that included the establishment of formal elementary school pen pal program.

Tartu, Estonia: Nate said that the Tartu-Salisbury Friendship Bridge will be dedicated on October 1st at 3:30. The pedestrian bridge across the Wicomico River should be completed. Statements by Tartu Mayor Urmas Klaas and other dignitaries will be read. MD Secretary of State Wobensmith, Prime Minister Kaja Kallas, and Estonian Ambassador Kristjan Prikk are invited. Nate will share the ceremony with our MEEC and JBANC friends.

Salisbury, UK: Gerry will submit the application for the \$1000 SWAC grant before it is due in six weeks. Gerry contacted the Children's Choir Director, Allen Memorial Choir, and Dean Maarten Pereboom. He will convene the taskforce next month. New Salisbury cathedral artwork was posted on our website. He sent us the new postcard of the Salisbury Cathedral with the change of date reminder.

Salinas, Ecuador: During the summer George talked about virtual classrooms with Carolina Bown. Carolina's contacts in Ecuador identified an interested school in Salinas. A teacher at Wicomico High School plans to connect their classes through Google Meet. The schools are in the process of setting up the program.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40. Next meeting will be October 5, 2021.