

Sister Cities of Salisbury and Wicomico County
Government Office Building, Room 306
5/2/2023 4:00 PM

Present: Mary Bargion, Aurelio Giannitti, Marion Keenan, George Whitehead, and Gerry Wood

1. Minutes

There was no meeting in April so the March minutes needed to be approved. Marion moved to accept the minutes. Mary seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously accepted.

2. Intern

George reported that Hasin represented us at 3rd Friday in April and enjoyed it. Tom put a picture of Hasin, Carole, and George at 3rd Friday on our website. Hasin is also working on a newsletter highlighting what is happening in the city, SU, the county, and the public schools. The plan is to share it with our sister cities.

George also reported that he met our intern for the upcoming fall semester. Her name is Anna Rozmiarek. George said that one project she will work on is an assessment of the UN Development Goals as suggested in our December 2020 newsletter. He has discussed this possibility with PACE. Anna speaks French.

3. Treasurer's Report

Gerry reported no change in the balance since the March meeting.

4. Reports and Updates

a. Dalian, China

No updates

b. Tartu, Estonia

Mary attended an event in Annapolis on April 18 that MEEC hosted. Milt Davis, Bob Agee, city officials, and the Director of the U. S. Investment and Trade at the Embassy of Estonia in Washington, D. C. attended. Bob Agee spoke about a landfill problem in Annapolis. He solved this problem from the bottom up rather than top down. He put together a 14-page RFP with only three goals listed and instructed the end user to be creative in supplying a solution. The landfill was transformed into a revenue-producing 20-acre solar farm. She also reported that at SCI's international conference in Dubai the topic will be climate change. They will discuss global solutions and how cities and other local entities can contribute.

Her article in the Independent will be on the MEEC website. Bob Agee is also taking it to Tartu.

c. Salinas, Ecuador

George shared that he sent our demographic document to Mendy Nitsch to see if she could help us locate the two pieces of data about Santa Elena Province we can't locate.

d. Salisbury, England

A citizen of Salisbury is visiting Salisbury, UK. George connected her to the City Clerk. Gerry updated on two opportunities. 1) Churches from Rochester, Bel Air, and Salisbury (St. Peter's) were planning to sing at Salisbury Cathedral this summer. The plans have fallen apart because of some personal issues with the choir director in Rochester. 2) Gerry was contacted by the choir director at Salisbury Cathedral about a 7-8 day tour in the USA to our sister cities. Gerry put an itinerary together. He sent it to the Cathedral but has not heard back.

5. Other business

We were asked if we wanted a table at Wordstock like we did last year. It is May 10 from 10 – 4. George said we would but could not stay the entire time. He and Hasin will be there at 10. George asked if anyone else can assist with the table at Wordstock to please let him know.

6. The group voted unanimously to adjourn. Next meeting in 6/6/23 at 4:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Whitehead