Sister Cities Association of Salisbury/Wicomico County Minutes of the June 1, 2011 Meeting

Began: 4 PM at the Chamber of Commerce

Ended: About 5 PM

Attending: Cindy Feist, Tom Welsh, Marion Keenan, and Chair George Whitehead.

The **Minutes** of the May 4 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: Cindy reported that the amount in our SCC Foundation account remains about the same as at the last meeting, a little under \$50.

We must pay our annual dues of \$500 in July. Cindy distributed correspondence from Sister Cities International requesting dues payment and describing the benefits of membership. (Also noted: President Eisenhower started Sister Cities.) Marion agreed to go to the Sister Cities' website and/or to call them to see what our status is. Have letters been exchanged? Are our Sister Cities listed? Is there a checklist?

Board members and others may donate to Sister Cities via the Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Our website has suggestion to "contact the Chamber of Commerce to make a donation."

It was also acknowledged that we have insufficient funds to develop our own 501(c)3. Membership dues were discussed but no recommendations developed.

International Golf Tournament: Brian Stiegler is working with Sam. They have five students at SU from China. Both SU and UMES will have fall students/visitors from China. Golf tournament funds might be available from the Chamber. The tournament probably would be held at the beginning of August. Cindy would solicit prizes, however five Chinese students would be needed. It was clarified that this is a Sister Cities, not a UMES or SU event.

PAC 14: Noted cooperation with *Singing for My Sister* and for the Superintendent of Schools' talk about his China visit.

Third Friday: Lee Whaley has suggested something International for the 30th Salisbury Festival. Cindy offered to run the *International Salisbury* film at the Chamber.

Third Sister City in Central or South America:

Brian Stiegler, George Whitehead, and Marion Keenan met with two recent visitors from Managua, Nicaragua, the Pastor of Nuestra Senora de la Merced and with his assistant. They agreed that there is great potential for our establishing a Sister Cities relationship with Managua. The 19-year Sister Parish relationship between the pastor's church and St. Francis de Sales church in Salisbury as well as the frequent visits to Managua of the medical mission group from Salisbury, La Merced, has built a substantial foundation. Assuming the city of Managua wants to pursue this relationship, there was a consensus to move forward toward establishing Managua as our third Sister City.

Submitted by Marion Keenan