

## **International Relations Committee**

Meeting held September 24, 2020 via Zoom video conference

A meeting of the International Relations Committee is held this day commencing at 10:00 o'clock a.m. via Zoom video conference, there being present the following members:

Councillor Fred Francis, Chair  
Councillor Fabio Costante  
Councillor Gary Kaschak  
Daniel Ableser  
Jerry Barycki  
Maria Belenkova  
Ronnie Haidar  
Steven Spagnuolo  
L.T. Zhao

### ***Regrets received from:***

Councillor Ed Sleiman  
Scott Despins

### ***Also present are the following resource personnel:***

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant  
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

## **1. Call to Order**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 10:01 o'clock a.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule A attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

### **Additions to the Agenda**

Moved by S. Spagnuolo, seconded by L.T. Zhao,  
That Rule 3.3 (c) of the Procedure By-law 98-2011 be waived to add the following additions to the Agenda:

- 4.6** Twin City Posts
- 4.7** Cross Border Cooperation Congress Lublin 2020  
Carried.

**2. Declaration of Conflict**

None disclosed.

**3. Minutes**

Moved by D. Ableser, seconded by S. Spagnuolo,  
That the minutes of the International Relations Committee of its meeting held June 18, 2020 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.  
Carried.

**4. Business Items**

**4.1 Mayor's Summit Mannheim**

Moved by D. Ableser, seconded by S. Spagnuolo,  
That the update provided by Councillor Francis regarding his participation on behalf of Mayor Dilkens at the Virtual Mayor's Summit in Mannheim, Germany on September 9, 2020 **BE RECEIVED**.  
Carried.

**4.2 Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce Initiative**

The Chair reports that the draft letter regarding an initiative by the Chamber of Commerce to propose an arrangement to extend membership benefits to members of our sister cities at no cost was approved by the Chamber of Commerce. He adds it is prudent to wait to send the letter to the Sister Cities until the second or third quarter of 2021 due to COVID-19.

Moved by J. Barycki, seconded by S. Spagnuolo,  
That the update provided by the Chair regarding the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce initiative **BE RECEIVED**, and further that the letter regarding this initiative **BE SENT** to the Sister Cities in 2021.  
Carried.

**4.3 2020 Children's Art Exchange**

The Chair advises that members of the IRC had the opportunity to view the Virtual Children's Art Exhibit prior to the meeting. He adds the Twin Cities that participated in

the initiative included the City of Windsor, Fujisawa, Japan, Gunsan, South Korea, Changchun, China, Mannheim, Germany, Lublin, Poland and Saltillo, Mexico. Greetings were also provided by the Mayors of Fujisawa, Gunsan, Mannheim, City of Windsor (by Councillor Francis for Mayor Dilkens) and the Deputy Mayor of Lublin.

S. Gebauer indicates that following the meeting, the Virtual Children's Art Exhibit link will be sent to the Twin Cities; will be shared through the City of Windsor's social media including the Mayor's Office social media. She adds the Communications Department will be sending out a Media Release.

Moved by J. Barycki, seconded by Councillor Kaschak,  
That the Virtual Children's Art Exchange initiative **BE APPROVED** and be made available to the public.  
Carried.

#### **4.4 International Relations Committee 2021 Operating Budget**

The Chair states that the annual Operating Budget for the IRC Committee is \$15,000. Currently the balance of the 2020 operating budget is at \$41,843.42 which includes the \$5,000 commitment to the You and Me Sculpture project. He adds the IRC Committee will request \$15,000 from City Council for 2021.

Moved by J. Barycki, seconded by D. Ableser,  
That the update regarding the International Relations Committee 2021 Budget request **BE RECEIVED**.  
Carried.

#### **4.5 Twin Cities with the Corporation of the City of Windsor**

Moved by R. Haidar, seconded by M. Belenkova,  
That the "Twin Cities with the Corporation of the City of Windsor" document **BE RECEIVED**.  
Carried.

#### **4.6 Twin City Posts**

The Chair reports that the Twin City Post will be placed in the Civic Esplanade.

A rendering of the Twin City Post is **attached** as Appendix "A".

The members review the renderings of the Twin City Post and the following comments are provided:

- Request for the Twin City's flag to be included next to the city's name.
- Placement of a light at the top of the post
- Include the km distance from the Twin City to Windsor
- Suggestion to place the post at the central riverfront near the flag

Councillor Kaschak indicates that the location of the Twin City Post will be most likely decided by the New City Hall Plaza and Esplanade Project Steering Committee.

Moved by D. Ableser, seconded by R. Haidar,

That the rendering of the Twin City Post provided by the Parks Department **BE RECEIVED**; that Administration from the Parks Department **BE REQUESTED** to provide options for possible locations for the Twin City Post and the final design, and further, that **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an upset limit of \$14,000 in principle for the creation and installation of the Twin City Post.

Carried.

#### 4.7 Cross Border Cooperation Congress Lublin 2020

Background information relating to the Cross Border Cooperation Congress Lublin 2020 is **attached** as Appendix "B".

S. Gebauer reports that the Cross Border Cooperation Congress Lublin 2020 will be held from October 6-9, 2020. She adds that if any members are interested in participating in any of the sessions to contact her. There is no charge associated with this and there is a maximum of 25 people per session.

J. Barycki states that the sessions will be held Lublin time which translates to a 4:00 a.m. session.

L.T. Zhao asks if the sessions will be recorded. S. Gebauer advises she will look into this matter and report back.

#### 5. Communications

Moved by Councillor Costante, seconded by S. Spagnuolo,

That Item 5.1 - Letter from Mayor Dilkens to Mayor Zuk, Lublin, Poland regarding the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the twinning partnership between the City of Windsor and Lublin and Item 5.2 regarding the letter from Mayor Zuk, Lublin to Mayor Dilkens regarding the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the partnership **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Kaschak, seconded by R. Haidar,

That Item 5.3 – Letter of congratulations from Mayor Dilkens to Mayor Zhang Zhijun, Changchun, China on the appointment of Mayor of Changchun **BE RECEIVED.**  
Carried.

Moved by S. Spagnuolo, seconded by D. Ableser,  
That the letter from Tigray Community of Windsor and Essex County regarding a request to assist the Tigrayans in Ethiopia **BE RECEIVED.**  
Carried.

The Chair advises the letter from the Tigray Community of Windsor and Essex County was forwarded to the Mayor's Office.

**6. New Business**

None.

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at the call of the Chair.

**8. Adjournment**

There being no new business, the meeting is adjourned at 10:25 o'clock a.m.

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**CHAIR**

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**COMMITTEE COORDINATOR**