



## Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission Meeting

### MINUTES

May 13, 2020

4pm via Zoom

- I. Welcome and Roll Call – **Margaret Lee, Matt Lewis, Stanley Li, Leonard Berry, Alex Golovets, Eduardo Martinez, Joseph Kong, Jim Matzorkis, Lucy Zhou and Trina Jackson**
- II. Review and approve minutes from previous meeting(s). ***Motion made by Leonard Berry and seconded by Stanley Li to approve the minutes as written. The minutes were approved unanimously.***
- III. Treasurer’s Report – ***No change***
  - a. Committee raised funds - \$288.71
  - b. City allocated funds - \$1,000
- IV. Reports from subcommittees
  - a. Education – ***No change due to COVID-19. Councilmember Martinez sent an article to the commission.***
  - b. Economic Development – ***China is opening - Zhoushan requires social distancing and mandatory mask order. International travelers coming to China have to enter into automatic 14-day quarantine.***
  - c. Tourism
    - i. ***Jim reported that business at the Oakland Airport is down 95%.***
    - ii. ***Visit Richmond is having a challenge with long-term funding. Visit Richmond is in danger of not having funding after January 31, 2021. They are looking into alternative funding options.***

- iii. Two largest hotels in Richmond are housing homeless until mid-August. Program staff is being covered by GRIP. Funding is coming from FEMA to cover the program. Regular stays are being accepted at Courtyard Marriott. Extended Stay is taking some corporate stays and non-COVID related stays are being taken at Hotel Mac.*
- iv. Travel for tourism and business will continue to be impacted at a minimum through 2021.*

V. Pending Old Business – *no comments*

VI. New Business –

- a. What COVID related matters or initiatives can the commission look into? – next agenda.*
- b. Stanley mentioned the need to prepare for continued remote business and meetings.*
- c. The commission should think about how this is going to impact business long-term, due to the shift in behavior and business practices. There are prolonged delays with passport renewals, hotel capacity and adjusting to changes.*
- d. How can the commission can take advantage of distance learning? How does the commission react and change to the new normal?*

VII. Other matters of interest

- a. May continue to Zoom meetings once the shelter-in-place order is lifted.*

VIII. Schedule the next meeting - **June 10<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.**

IX. Adjourn – **Meeting adjourned at 4:58pm**