



Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission Meeting

September 15, 2021

4pm via Zoom

MINUTES

- I. Welcome and Roll
 - Present – Stanley Li, Margaret Lee, Joseph Kong, Leonard Berry, Eric Peterson, Alex Golovets (briefly), Councilmembers Johnson, Bates and Martinez, Staff Liaison Jackson
 - Absent – James Lee
- II. Review and approve minutes from previous meeting(s).
 - May
 - June
- III. Treasurer’s Report
 - Commission raised funds - \$1,288.71
 - City allocated funds - \$1000.00
- IV. Nominations and appointments of new chair and vice chair due to the resignations of Commissioners Zhao and Lewis.
 - On the nomination and second by Commissioners Berry and Kong, Stanley Li was appointed as the new chair by a unanimous vote.
 - On the nomination and second by Chair Li and Commissioner Berry, Margaret Lee was appointed as the new vice chair by a unanimous vote.
- V. Discussion on how the commission will organize and strategize on projects and programming.

The commission and councilmembers discussed potential fundraising and outreach ideas.

- There was a suggestion by CM Johnson to hold a Karaoke event to raise awareness of the commission and to raise funds.

- The commissioners were asked to provide ideas of potential venues including Chinese owned businesses to hold events
- CM Martinez mentioned drafting a letter to support recognition or contributions to honor Jim Matzorkis
- Chair Li has been working with commissioners to solicit funds for the scholarship funds
- Lucy has contacted Mr. Wu at Terminal One for a contribution to the Scholarship Fund
- CM Johnson suggested a PenPal program with students in Zhoushan and students at the Mandarin school. Council be electronic – need to contact Zhoushan to question how it could work.

VI. Review and discuss email from Zhoushan on the proposed Interactive Communication Program with the Zhoushan Greentown Yuhua School.

- The Mandarin School is K-4th grade and has moved to Pinole. Commissioner Peterson proposed to contact Richmond Middle Schools to ascertain interest.
- A cohort of 25 students is a better number to manage – should research the ages and potential grades
- Should suggest a piolet program
- Commissioner Peterson will inquire about interested teachers
- Need to know if Greentown Yuhua is an International Baccalaureate school – IB schools have college prep courses and prepares students for global thought processes

VII. Review and discuss the invitation from Zhoushan officials to Richmond officials to attend the Zhejiang International Friendship Cities Exchange Exhibition in Yiwu, China, Zhejiang Province from November 12th through the 15th.

- Due to the travel restrictions and quarantine requirements, it isn't feasible to attend.
- Possibly attend next year

VIII. Pending Old Business

- Update on Jim Matzorkis Scholarship to send Richmond Youth to Zhoushan, China
 - i. Review Application Sample

- ii. Use of donation link on <https://www.zhoushanrichmond.org/> - pending response from James Lee
- Review and provide input on donation solicitation letter
 - i. The draft was sent to Martinez, Sara and Eric for input in June
 - ii. Compile list of potential donors and/or how to use the letter

IX. Other matters of interest

- Councilmember Bates will sponsor an item to rename the entrance sign to the Port of Richmond on Canal as the “Jim Matzorkis Port” AWC has agreed to share the cost of the sign.

➤ ***CM Bates suggested the commission brainstorm on a name to honor Jim to replace the current entry sign at the Port***

X. Schedule the next meeting and consider new meeting schedule - **Not discussed**

- Continue to meet monthly or change to bi-monthly or quarterly meetings
 - ***The commission will continue to meet monthly.***
- Date of next meeting
 - ***October 13, 2021***

XI. Adjourn