

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020
10 A.M.**

Members Present: Doug Trelfa, Chair, Beth Partington, Vice Chair, Nan Harper

Members Absent: Laverne Baker, Jena Melancon

Others Present: Patricia Russo, Vincent Tucei, Carmen Zampini

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Trelfa. A quorum was established.

2. Oath of Office—City Clerk

Oath of Office was administered to Doug Trelfa, Beth Partington, and Nan Harper by Assistant City Clerk Robyn Tice.

3. Approval of Minutes—November 20, 2019

Motion made by Member Partington, seconded by Member Harper to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2019 meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Trelfa postponed the election of Chair and Vice Chair until the next meeting so that all members could be present.

5. Sister City Updates

Chair Trelfa reported that the Gero student delegation will arrive in Pensacola on March 24, and leave on April 1. There are 20 students and 3 adults coming this year. A group from Brown Barge is scheduled to go to Gero for a week at the end of May. Students from the University of West Florida will also visit Gero while in Japan this summer.

6. Interest in Establishing Sister City Relationship with Vicenza, Italy

Ms. Patricia Russo, President-elect of Buona Fortuna Lodge, a lodge affiliated with a national group called the Sons and Daughters of Italy has been working for several years on the establishment of a sister city with Vicenza, Italy. They now have the support of the new Mayor in Vicenza, who is excited about establishing the relationship and they need the support of Pensacola's Mayor to continue with the formation of the relationship.

Member Harper indicated that there are other people in the community who are not a part of the Buona Fortuna Lodge interested in supporting this relationship

and she felt like Mayor Robinson would be supportive of establishing this relationship.

Ms. Russo also indicated that they hold an Italian Festival each year in October and thought it would be a good opportunity to invite a delegation from Vicenza to come to Pensacola.

Member Harper made a motion to approve the proposal to establish a sister city relationship with Vicenza, Italy and forward the request to Mayor Robinson. Vice Chair Partington seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

7. Update—UWF Center for Asian Studies

Chair Trelfa reported they are continuing their focus on Korea this year, expanding the partnerships. They are hosting the first group of ten students from South Korea, have established a Korean Club at the University and the students are getting out in the community. There is a Korean language program now, through the continuing education program. There will be two different faculty led study abroad programs—one in Korea and one in Japan. They are also looking at the possibility of offering a Vietnamese language study. There will be a big academic conference in March.

8. Report on Galvez National Meeting

Member Harper made a presentation on the Galvez Ceremony held on May 8. The delegation from Spain has grown every year. At the ceremony in New Orleans, there were over 20 people from Pensacola in attendance.

The National meeting involved chapters from San Antonio, Galveston, Houston, Baton Rouge, Jacksonville, St. Augustine, and Pensacola. There is also a group in Washington, DC who did not participate. The National Governor is a descendant of Galvez.

9. New Business: None

10. Open Forum: No further public comments.

11. Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.