

Sister City Committee

March 25, 2014 Meeting

Present: Linda Speed, Ed Lamont, Tod Johnson, Jeanine Normand, Dee Dee Litaker & Kate Fisher

Meeting was called to order at 4:10.

Information from the Mobile Sister Cities program was distributed along with an overview of the City of Fairhope. Linda has had meetings with Mark Ewald regarding the Sister City program with Ichihara, Japan. Linda distributed notes from her meeting.

Recommendations:

- Must have backing of the community or the program will fail
- Form a committee that is interested and committed to the project. If interest dwindles, then the relationship with the Sister City dies.
- Keep our community informed about the program.
- Mission Statement
- Select a city that is similar to Fairhope (size, population, etc.)

Linda will discuss with Sherry Sullivan if the Sister City program can be a sub-category of an already established 501-(C)3 non-profit or if we will need to establish our own. It takes approximately one year to receive non-profit status; however, for fund-raising purposes it is essential.

There was discussion of selecting a city that has a connection to Air Bus, but we were advised not to choose a city with only Air Bus assembly plant; we want a city that includes design and engineering. Rhos on Sea in Wales was also mentioned due to the connection of Prince Madoc's sailing to America in 1170 and his landing in Mobile Bay. Conference call with John Jones from Wales was discussed at the next meeting, but it was suggested that this might be premature.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 22.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00