

## Alexandria Sister Cities Committee March '25 Meeting – Monday 17 March 2025

- Meeting held at City Hall; called to order at approximately ~7:08 pm
- Attendance
  - In-person: Erin Rauner, Carter Rice, Dale Medearis, Paul Anderson, Jennifer Eidemiller, Eric Compton, Mary Bramley (Office of Historic Alexandria), Alejandro (Alex) Perez-Reyes, Diana Price, Mikke Norton, Jose Mandujano, Phil Dawit, Diana Price
  - Excused Absence: Martha Davis (NOVA CC)
  - Absent: James Morrison, Elisabeth Poppen
- February '25 minutes: Moved to accept the minutes Erin (Primary), Mikee (seconded)
- Treasurer's Report – not reviewed.
- Sister Cities' Updates – Eric
  - TBD (2026) – Sailing Club Regatta
  - TBD (2026) – Rugby Cup
  - TBD (2026) – Soccer Tournament (Alexandria Soccer League – interested in going to Dundee, Scotland
  - Summer/Fall (October) – School Visits
- Upcoming Events
  - Mar 29<sup>th</sup> - GW University (Tattoo - Tartan Day)
  - Apr 15<sup>th</sup> - Transatlantic Book Club (Helsingborg) - Diana
  - Apr 24<sup>th</sup> - Transatlantic Book Club (Dundee) – Diana
  - Apr 26<sup>th</sup> - Whisky Tasting (Dundee) – all hands-on deck, please – Phil and Paul
  - May (TBD) - Swedish Coffee and Pastries – contacted Swedish Chamber of Commerce and now at St. Elmos – Vanessa and Carter
  - Jun 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> - Helsingborg, Sweden – Invited to their graduation.
  - Jun 21<sup>st</sup> - Mid-summer Celebration (Helsingborg) officially June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Elisabeth
  - Aug (TBD) – Hold a gin and tonic tasting – Erin
  - Nov 30<sup>th</sup> - Visit to Sister Cities – Dundee Hooley
- Ongoing Business
  - May 9<sup>th</sup> - Committee Report (diversifying our engagements) – The sub-committee met round 1. Next meeting noted – Dale
  - TBD (Late Summer) - Culinary – Baker (Le Cordon Bleu background). Scottish baking on Zoom. – Jenn
  - TBD (Fall) - Joint presentation of all three sister cities (Caen, Helsingborg, Dundee) on Viking history. – Carter and Eric
  - TBD - Dundee Tapestry and bringing it to Alexandria. Still figuring out where to hold this and the size of the exhibit – Eric
- New Business
  - TBD – Midsommer / Mid-Summer Event – Elisabeth
  - Other Events?
- Whisky Tasting Event Planning – All
  - Schedule another breakout session - Phil
  - Event should be live this weekend for ticket sales – 60 regular/20 VIP
  - Comp City Council tickets – Phil (motioned), Erin (seconded). Ask Whitney about sending formal invites – Vanessa. Also, create a comp list – Phil.
  - Marketing out on Facebook/Instagram – Jenn
  - Raffle Items – Lena's and/or O'Connell's (Eric), TBD (Jenn), TBD (Others?)
  - Inventory – Purchased an additional 100 whisky glasses (Eric); need to check inventory at Llyod House 3/28 (Eric)
  - Food – Scottish, whisky-themed food; will send an email requesting ideas and assistance – Erin
  - Flowers – if anyone has any ideas or wants to help
  - Bagpiper/fiddler terms – Max budget approved Paul (Primary), Erin (seconded) – James/Paul
  - Tickets – raise the tickets by a small amount - Paul (Primary), Erin (seconded)

- o Timing of event – agreed upon to start earlier.
- Next meeting: Moved up the meeting one week --- Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at (tentative) Llyod House, 7 PM.
- Meeting adjourned: ~8:21 pm

JLE

Secretary

17 March 2025