



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SISTER CITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on Thursday 26 September 2024 commencing at 5.30pm
in the Council Chambers, 43-51 Tanunda Road, Nuriootpa.

MINUTES

Welcome by Mayor Bim Lange declared the meeting open at 5.30pm.

1. ATTENDANCE RECORD

1.1 Members Present

Mayor Bim Lange, Janine Harding, Rolf Binder, Rick Lane, Bill Simons, Scott Hazeldine, Louise Hickinbotham, Vanesa Lambert, Ingrid Day, Jo Seabrook and Milly Hoffman.

Apologies

Jo Moen, Carol Dadds, Courtney Percival

Not Present

Michelle Schwarz

Leave of Absence

Nil

Resignation of Matt Hale – Committee Member

Members were advised that Matt Hale has resigned from the Committee due to other commitments.

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of previous meetings – for confirmation:

MOVED Scott Hazeldine

That the Minutes of the Sister City Advisory Committee held on Thursday 25 July 2024 at 5.30pm, as circulated, be confirmed as true and correct records of the proceedings of those meetings.

SECONDED Rick Lane

CARRIED SCACC/9

2.2 Matters arising from previous minutes

Nil

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

3.1 Update on Grapevine Official Delegation Visit to Barossa 2025

Janine Harding provided a verbal update regarding the Grapevine Official Delegation visit scheduled for April 2025 in terms of expected numbers of delegates, including officials, business owners, community members and students including possible recreation options for their visit. Also looking at collaboration with the Barossa Vintage Festival and how the Barossa Council can add value to the festival. Catherine Nacey provided a verbal update on accommodation options for April 2025.

The Committee discussed slowing down the itinerary with options and having a more tailored experience for delegates.

ACTION

Catherine and Janine will continue to liaise with delegates from Grapevine to finalise itinerary details and report back to the Committee

3.2 Update on the Exchange Program Working Group

Janine provided a verbal update on the progress of the working group and awaiting a response from PW McCallum in relation to specifics around students.

Rick Lane provided a verbal update on logistics of the visit in April in terms of teachers and what the Student Exchange Program might look like. Milly Hoffman, head of Agriculture and Winery at Nuriootpa High School (NHS) to assist Rick and provided a verbal update on discussion with PW McCallum and also commented around timing of Royal Adelaide Show and GrapeFest visit in September 2025.

Ingrid Day spoke on the National and State policies around Student Exchange and that it may be better to register as a 'study tour'.

Bill Simons commented on the Rotary Student Exchange Program and that it is normally one student who is hosted by various clubs during their time.

Louise Hickinbotham advised that she has had discussions with Kiwanis for the possibility of sponsorship of a disadvantaged student to attend Grapevine. This is to be proposed at the next Kiwanis meeting in October. Lutheran Care Board are also looking into providing support to a First Nations student.

The Committee discussed if it would be suitable to include in the student application process a commitment to fundraising for the trip, their ability to host a student and if they may have any financial constraints. It was also discussed if it would be beneficial to combine fundraising efforts with Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis.

ACTION

Louise and Janine to present to Kiwanis at the next meeting and talk to the other Service Clubs in the Barossa Region to assess options of collaboration.

3.3 Update on the Trade Development Working Group

Rolf Binder provided a verbal update on the working group aims to set short term goals and long term objectives of strong business ties but also friendship. Important to tie to Grapevine but also extend to the rest of Texas. He has invited Anthony Grundel, Export Adviser – Trade Start/Austrade to the working group who will attend in October.

Scott Hazeldine provided a verbal update on exploring links through State Government, SA Tourism Commission in Texas and South by Southwest in Austin Texas.

ACTION

Anthony Grundel to present to the next Working Group meeting.

The Working Group will investigate further links with Government agencies and bring back to the Committee.

3.4 Update on the Event Volunteering Working Group

An update on the Event Volunteering Working Group was provided and it was agreed the group will focus on supporting the Student Exchange Program and look at the opportunities around the Barossa Vintage Festival before implementing at a larger scale if this is successful.

The Working group will investigate fundraising opportunities specifically for the Student Exchange Program, including support for the Young Ambassador Program at the Barossa Vintage Festival.

ACTION

The Working Group will investigate further and bring back to the Committee.

3.5 Calendar of Events - April 2025

The Committee discussed the timeframes around all events during April 2025. Barossa Wine Auction to be added. Gather Round should see an increase in visitation for the week. Number of games and teams to be announced soon.

3.6 Barossa Vintage Festival 2025 - Verbal Update

Scott Hazeldine provided a verbal update that the Barossa Vintage Festival program is progressing well with Rebecca Reynolds and Maz McGann as Co-Directors. Funding is currently being sought with sponsorship opportunities. Aiming for a 10 per cent increase in attendance.

Janine provided a verbal update around some ideas where The Barossa Council and Grapevine delegates and students could be involved in the Barossa Vintage Festival such as a US themed event, blind wine tastings, Texas BBQ and Grapestomp, all to be discussed with the Co-Directors.

There are funds in the 2024/2025 budget which could be used for the Barossa Vintage Festival Young Ambassador award recipient to attend GrapeFest in 2025 as part of the official delegation. PW McCallum or other official from Grapevine could present this prize.

ACTION

Janine to meet with Co-Directors of the Barossa Vintage Festival and Council Executive Team and bring back further information to the Committee.

3.7 Barossa Vintage Festival Parade - Sister City Float

The Committee discussed having a friendship float, acknowledging the Grapevine delegation and students (who will be in attendance). Louise Hickinbotham has access to tractors and trailers.

All Committee Members in attendance committed to assisting.

ACTION

Louise, Janine and Catherine to meet to discuss further and bring a concept back to the Committee.

Bill Simons left the meeting at 6:40 pm

3.8 International Greeter Association

Jo Seabrook and Ingrid Day provided a verbal update on the possibility of utilising The Barossa Council, Barossa Ambassadors, as part of a greeter program run through Visitor Services. The International Greeter Association has 4 main criteria:

- Run by volunteers
- Maximum of 6 participants
- Free
- Sustainable (walking and engaged with the community)

The Committee felt that this was achievable with current resources.

ACTION

Jo Seabrook and Ingrid Day will continue to look at the viability and aspects for implementation.

4. DEBATE REPORT

Nil

5. CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA

Nil

6. URGENT OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

7. NEXT MEETING

Thursday 28 November 2024 at 5.30pm

8. CLOSURE

Mayor Lange declared the meeting closed at 6.51pm.

Confirmed at Sister Cities Advisory Committee Meeting on 28 November 2024

Date:..... Chairperson:.....