

Partner City Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2017

Harmon Conference Room, 1101 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas

Attendance: Ed Klimek, Liz Beikmann, Vern Wirka, Karen Wirka, David Fiser, and Martha Seaton. Staff: Gary Fees.

At 4:05 p.m., Chair Ed Klimek called the meeting to order.

After welcomes and discussion, Beikmann moved to approve the minutes from the September 6, 2017, meeting. Wirka seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Klimek provided an update from Sara Vytlačil regarding her interest to revive the school exchange program with her class and another class in our Partner City Dobřichovice. The Committee also discussed reaching out to Amanda Arnold.

Klimek shared with the committee that Vytlačil has invited everyone to attend the Czech event in Munden, Kansas, on Sunday, October 22, 2017, which includes events starting at 10:30 a.m. and a polka dance from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. He also shared that Molly B. will be performing in Cuba, Kansas, on Sunday, October 29, as a fundraiser for those interested in attending. Finally, he informed the committee that several of the Czech students attending Kansas State University enjoyed tailgating and then attended the K-State football game.

The committee and friends continued the discussion of a possible Czech Fest in the Peace Memorial Auditorium after its completion. After discussion, there was a general consensus to include this item as a future goal and to explore entertainment options/availability with the K-State Orchestra and the Flint Hills Masterworks Chorale (similar to the event held at McCain Auditorium featuring Czech music and relationship between the City of Manhattan and our Partner City Dobřichovice). There was also discussion to reach out to the Manhattan High School Chorus. In addition to the music entertainment, there was discussion to potentially provide kolaches and to not do a potluck or catered event.

Additional goals for consideration included revising the school exchange program with our Partner City Dobřichovice, continuing and increasing our communications with elected officials and others with the City of Dobřichovice, and inviting the Honorary Consul, Sharon Valasek, with the Czech Honorary Consulate in Kansas City for a future program or potential lecture. Klimek provided additional information on the City's Partner City formation and relationship.

Wirka provided an update on the Kansas Amateur Radio operations at Kansas State University and stated that he would continue to reach out to his counterpart in Dobřichovice.

Klimek announced that the next Partner City meeting would be at 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, November 1, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.