

Partner City Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – November 1, 2017

Harmon Conference Room, 1101 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas

Attendance: Ed Klimek, Liz Beikmann, Vern Wirka, Glen Lojka, Dolly Anderson, Mila Valenta, Mary Ann Buhler, Jan Janasek, Ron Janasek, Bill Smriga, and Barry Michie. Staff: Gary Fees.

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

After welcome and discussion, Beikmann moved to approve the minutes from the October 4, 2017, meeting. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Klimek provided a recap on the future goals discussed during the October 4 meeting. In addition to the goals previously discussed, the committee discussed additional efforts to strengthen our exchange with the City of Dobřichovice and talked about scheduling another Skype session with officials and residents with our partner city. There was also discussion about having the Consul General of the Czech Republic in Chicago, Borek Lizec, to be a future speaker and, potentially, collaborating with Kansas State University. Wirka was going to gather additional information and report to the committee at a future meeting.

The committee discussed election of officers and responsibilities of the chair and vice-chair positions. Klimek moved to nominate Vern Wirka as chair of the Partner City Advisory Committee. Dolly Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

After discussion, Anderson moved to nominate Glen Lojka as vice-chair of the Partner City Advisory Committee. Beikmann seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The committee and friends congratulated Wirka and Lojka as well as thanked Klimek for his leadership and service as an outstanding chair of the Partner City Advisory Committee.

Lojka discussed future speakers and suggested several topics, including asking former K-State tennis coach Steve Bietau to share his experiences with the Czech Republic and tennis athletes.

Bill Smriga provided an informative presentation about his trip to the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. There was discussion on the possibility to invite a representative from the Museum and Library to provide information on the history and an update on their facility. The committee and friends thanked Smriga for an excellent presentation.

The committee discussed the December Partner City meeting. Klimek encouraged everyone to invite our Czech students and the students would share information about their homeland and experiences while attending K-State and living in Manhattan. The committee discussed bringing a favorite food dish or dessert to share as well as kolaches. Klimek informed the committee that there would not be a Partner City meeting in January 2018.

Klimek and Wirka announced that the next Partner City meeting would be at 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, December 6, 2017, in the City Commission Room.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.