

# Partner City Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – September 7, 2016

Harmon Conference Room, 1101 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas

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**Attendance:** Ed Klimek, Glen Lojka, Dolly Anderson, Liz Beikmann, Sara Vytlačil, Mila Valenta, Dave Fiser, Barry Michie, Vern Wirka, Jan Janasek, Ron Janasek, Mary Ann Buhler, and students attending Kansas State University Filip Belsky, Martin Patrman, Frantisek Smio, Michaela Koletova, Simon Kopsa, and Ondrej Kokes. Staff: Gary Fees.

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

Klimek welcomed everyone to the meeting. Klimek and Fees provided background information about the City of Manhattan, the community and the partnership with the City of Dobřichovice.

Michie provided information on the history of the international programs that were established between universities in the Czech Republic/Prague and Kansas State University.

Members of the committee and friends of the committee introduced themselves. Each provided information about their Czech heritage and/or interests in the Partner City Committee. Everyone welcomed the students from the Czech Republic who were attending Kansas State University and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Martin Patrman, Filip Belsky, Frantisek Smio, Michaela Koletova, Ondrej Kokes, and Simon Kopsa provided background information about themselves, talked about where they were from and their families, discussed their majors, and shared their interests.

Valenta shared her experiences moving to the United States and read a Czech newspaper regarding Czech Republic athletes competing in the Olympics.

Klimek talked about former students that were involved in athletics at K-State who were from the Czech Republic.

Vytlačil provided information on various Czech events and festivals in Kansas and Nebraska. She also talked about her experience being a Kansas Czech Queen.

Lojka provided a historical perspective on his family in Cuba, Kansas and the many changes with his family's farm and surrounding farms in the area since 1861. He also talked about the recent Czech festival in Cuba and said that two professors from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln gave a presentation on the Czech language.

Beikmann announced that Ondrej would be teaching a Czech language class at Kansas State University through the International Student Center.

Vytlačil presented a slide show of photographs from her recent trip to our Partner City Dobřichovice and in the Czech Republic. She talked about her time with Vaclav, former mayor of City of Dobřichovice and shared stories of the friends that she met and places she visited during her stay. Everyone thanked Sara for a very informative presentation.

Lojka discussed upcoming programs and educational presentations. After discussion, Wirka agreed to provide a presentation at a future meeting and the students would provide presentations in December, with members of the committee and friends providing food.

Klimek thanked everyone for attending. He stated the next meeting would be on Wednesday, October 5, 2016, at 4:00 p.m., Harmon Conference Room.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.