

Partner City Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2018

City Commission Room, 1101 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas

Attendance: Vern Wirka, Liz Beikmann, Ed Klimek, Dolly Anderson, Karen Wirka, Barry Michie, Mila Valenta, Tracy Weaver, and Mary Ann Buhler. Staff: Gary Fees.

At 4:05 p.m., Chair Vern Wirka called the meeting to order.

Wirka welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

After discussion, Liz Beikmann moved to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2018, meeting. Dolly Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The committee discussed future programs. After discussion and comments, Beikmann and Ed Klimek provided an update on students attending K-State from the Czech Republic. Beikmann said she would follow-up with the students on their schedules and invite them to attend the November or December Partner City meeting. Klimek suggested we visit with our partners in Dobřichovice and would work with Wirka to make contacts and schedule a time to Skype with them during an upcoming meeting.

Barry Michie highlighted several upcoming events with the Riley County Genealogical Society and encouraged those interested to check out information on their website.

Mary Ann Buhler stated that the Flint Hills Masterworks Chorale will feature *Requiem for the Living* by Dan Forrest, as well as other concert pieces on November 4, 2018. The concert will be held at the First United Methodist Church at 3:00 p.m., and is free to the public. She encouraged everyone to attend.

Wirka highlighted an article in *The Mercury* titled, “A brief look at music history in Riley County.” He provided information on the significance of the Riley Band, a local town band, which played a significant role in Riley County’s early history with music and dancing.

Wirka introduced Tracy Weaver, Accordionist. Wirka provided a history of the button accordion and demonstrated by playing his Hohner Panther accordion. Weaver discussed his interests in the accordion and demonstrated by playing his Beltuna piano accordion. Wirka then played several music selections using a Melodia accordion, made in Slovenia. He provided information on the instrument and responded to questions. Finally, Tracy played several Czech music selections on his Beltuna accordion and demonstrated features of the accordion. The Committee and those present thanked Wirka and Weaver for their presentations and sharing their musical talents.

Wirka stated that the next Partner City meeting would be Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 4:00 p.m., at City Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.