

City of Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara Sister Cities
March 6th, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
Chair Margaret Saavedra called the meeting to order at noon.
- 2) ROLL CALL: Members Present: Margaret Saavedra, Chair; Miguel Arana, Mariflores; George Pepazachanioudakis, Patras; Bonnie Carroll, Puerto Vallarta; Jill Stassinis, Weihai.
Mayor Randy Rowse, Alternate Council Liaison
- 3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: George Pepazacharioudakis from Patras moved to accept the January 3, 2024, board meeting minutes and Miguel Arana from Miraflores seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- 4) ANNOUNCEMENTS: Scott Burns from Puerto Vallarta shared information. on renting the Cabrillo Arts Pavilion Event Center for Thursday, October 10th International dinner (cost approx. \$1,300) and Miguel Arana shared info. on April 7th Peru Spring Festival.
- 5) PUBLIC COMMENT: Visitor/Guests were introduced and Rory Moore from Toba shared information on the "Taiko drum event."
- 6) REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2024: Margaret Saavedra shared the Santa Barbara Sister Cities calendar of events for 2024.
- 7) REQUEST FOR FUNDS FOR YAAS: Bonnie Carroll made a motion to have each sister city donate \$100 to help pay for YAAS and George Pepazacharioudakis seconded the motion; there was one abstention and one absence; the motion passed.
- 8) REPORT FROM SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL: Margaret Saavedra shared a flyer on SCI Youth Summit at the end of May 2024 in Washington, D.C and gave a report from Sister Cities International. Sister Cities International is holding their annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas at the end of May 2024.
- 9) REPORT FROM SCI'S SOCAL REGINAL MEETING: Margaret Saavedra: Margaret shared report from Sister Cities' International Southern California Regional Meeting. SoCal meets four times a year; and So Cal Young Artist Expo deadline is April 15th, 2024. SoCal Leadership Summit H.S. & college age students are eligible for the summit which takes place on April 20th & 21st.
- 10) REQUEST FUNDS AND UPDATE ON YOUNG AUTHORS AND ARTISTS SHOWCASE 2024: Each Santa Barbara Sister City is requested to send Bonnie

Carroll a jpeg photo w/a QR code for the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Brochure. Due to George Lilly's Foundation's generous donation each sister city no longer needs to donate \$50 to help pay for the Santa Barbara Sister Cities brochures.

11)REQUEST FUNDS & UPDATE ON SANTA BARBARA SISTER CITIES BROCHURE: (Committee: Margaret Saavedra, Margarita Zaske, Bonnie Carroll): Jill Stassinis made a motion to take money from the George Lilly Foundation donation to pay for Santa Barbara Sister Cities membership in the South Coast Chamber of Commerce. Bonnie Carroll seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

12)REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Miraflores, Peru: A presentation meeting was held for attendees of the trip to with 40 members.

Patras Greece: Reported that there were less than a dozen members interested in going to Patras at the end of March. Thus, they decided to postpone their visit. Patras is planning a student exchange at the end of June and a mini-Greek Festival on Friday and Saturday at the end of June across the street from the Hilton Hotel (formerly known as the Fess Parker Double Tree Hotel).

Weihai, China: Holds regularly scheduled Dim Sum Sunday Brunch on the first Sunday of each month at the China Pavilion Restaurant in Santa Barbara on Chapala Street at 11:30 am.

The Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board Meeting ended at 1:07 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Stassinis
SB-Weihai Sister City Rep.