

## ***Jasper Partnership and Pfaffenweiler Partnership Commissions***

Meeting Minutes 3/31/2021

7:30 am – Pfaffenweiler Room

### **ROLL CALL**

Max Verkamp

Mayor

Lisa Bower

Stan Jochum

Kim Lottes

Andrea Gramelspacher

Steffi Schmuecker

Gina Schuetter

Sandy Wehr

Mary Leah Seigel

### **CALL TO ORDER / MINUTES**

Max called the meeting to order at 7:32am.

Kim Lottes made the motion to accept the minutes from the February 12, 2021 Partnership Commission meeting. Stan Jochum seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Artisan/Craft Exchange**

Dieter Hahn is very excited about this exchange. There have already been some identified artisans:

- Straw Shoes – this creator will send their products over with another individual chosen to travel.
- Knitted wrist bands
- Concrete/Cement Candleholders – artist will do on-site and exhibit. Due to weight there will not be inventory shipped.

The Jasper Arts Commission put out a call for artists. There have not been many responses. This could be due to the COVID concerns in Germany. Also, some of the artists create their work as a side job and also hold full-time jobs, so to leave for a couple of weeks may not be practical.

Stan Jochum will run point to help find artisans willing to go to Pfaffenweiler for the exchange.

- Identify potential candidates
- Be in Pfaffenweiler for about 2-3 weeks
  - Be sure the artisan is in Pfaffenweiler on November 27<sup>th</sup> for the “Open Air Market.” This market is a one-day event for Christmas.
- We would cover transportation to Pfaffenweiler and while in Pfaffenweiler and housing. If any touring was done, it would be on their own. If spouses wanted to join, they could, but we would not cover the cost.

August 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline if we don't have anyone we will wait until next year. Pfaffenweiler would still be able to do the exchange this year since they have interest. When we advertise, possibly spell out what the exchange is all about in more details.

The Eckerle Family Foundation is onboard to support this exchange. They want to support both exchanges annually.

- For Jasper Artisans going to Germany, the support will include the following:
  - Airline transportation to and from Germany
  - Transportation while in Pfaffenweiler
  - Weekly support for expenses & supplies for craft
- For German Artisans coming to Jasper, the support will include the following:
  - Transportation while in Jasper
  - Weekly support for expenses & supplies for craft
  - Space in the Cultural Center

### **37th Anniversary Trip Celebrating the Sister Cities Partnership**

We are looking at the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Trip to be moved to 2022, which means it would be the 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Trip.

Looking at June 2022 to coincide with the student exchange program. With it coinciding with the exchange program we must share with student's parents they can't piggyback with the exchange program and won't be able to hang out with their child much. Mayor will ask Dieter on his monthly call what the celebration date will be.

The last iteration of the trip was eight days seven nights and under \$2000, in 2020. There was talk about adding a Rhine River tour, which would add more money to the total and a couple of days. Our target could be to stay under the \$2500 mark.

Max reached out to Jackie and we are still under contract with her and are contractually obligated to continue with the trip. We can resurrect from 2021 and should be able to promote at Strassenfest. Jackie said when we are 11 months out, she can lock in the prices. She will look to us on next steps.

Max will discuss with Jackie about individuals who may want to plan extensions: a week early or stay a week later.

### **Other Business**

Status in Pfaffenweiler

- Currently in lockdown for another month
- Not many are vaccinated due to the confidence level of the vaccine.

Mayor will get more information from Dieter regarding the internship of the Brothers and cabinet making. They are wanting a three-week VISA but not sure of all the details. Indiana Furniture may be willing to participate in this internship.

- How long at each place?

- What are the ages of the brothers?
- Exact type of work they are looking for?
- What do they want to get out of their experience?
- Timeframe of the visit?

Mary Leah discussed creating a list of host families in the area in case guests from Pfaffenweiler would visit Jasper. Pfaffenweiler has an “emergency list” for Jasper guests.

Teacher exchange discussed:

- Hang up is currently on the Jasper side
- Trying to figure out the timing of the exchange
- Start out with 2-3 weeks
- Exchange would happen during breaks so it would not infringe on teaching time and salary.
- Mr. Gutgsell, Principal at Staufen, is committed to exchange

Mayor Vonderheide motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kim Lottes seconded.

**NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting will be announced.