

Jasper Partnership Commission

Meeting Minutes 1/26/2024

7:30 am – Pfaffenweiler Room

ROLL CALL

Max Verkamp

Mayor Vonderheide

Lisa Bower

Kim Lottes

Stan Jochum via phone

Andrea Gramelspacher

Steffi Schmuecker

Guests:

Mary Leah Siegel

CALL TO ORDER / MINUTES

Max called the meeting to order at 7:36am.

Kim Lottes made the motion to accept the minutes from the June 22, 2023 Partnership Commission meeting. Andrea Gramelspacher seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Member Update

Max Verkamp remains President, Stan Jochum remains Vice President, and Lisa Bower remains Recording Secretary of the Partnership Commission. Kim Lottes made the motion and Steffi Schmuecker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Financial Report

Funds are held by Sister Cities, Inc. and the Treasurer is Matthias Hilger.

Max presented the 2023 Income and Expenses. Mayor Vonderheide made a motion to approve as presented and Andrea Gramelspacher seconded the motion. The motion carried. See attached for the report.

Honoring Gib Verkamp

Max thanked the Commission for the money sent to the Community Foundation on behalf of his father, Gib Verkamp.

Gib was known for all the work he had done in the community and for the partnership with Pfaffenweiler.

Kent Seger said it best when asked to donate in honor of Gib, “ “Hands in the air” yes from me too. We’re standing on the shoulders and dreams of people from Jasper like Gib”

Discussion of the 2025 visit from Pfaffenweiler – 40th Anniversary

- Gifts - \$30 price range
 - Kim and Lisa are working together to come up with a gift.

- Ideas that were discussed: photo book from the trip to send when they arrive back to Pfaffenweiler
- Digital photo frame (be sure to have a European plug-in) with Partnership logo and 40th anniversary date
- Plates made by Monte Young with the Partnership logo. (see attached)
 - Kim will reach out to Monte Young to see what the cost would be and if he would be willing to do it.
 - With Monte being on the exchange trip last year it all ties together.
 - Monte is willing to do the plates for us for the cost of \$20 each. We would also include a stand as the plates are not able to be used for food due to the logo and type of material he needs to use because of the logo. We will tie a note card to the stand with information about the plate and the 40th celebration.
- Max will check with Pfaffenweiler to get an idea what was spent when Jasper made visited.
- We feel there will be a big group visiting, stone carvers' group with spouses and a younger crowd that has had interest.
 - We need to try to figure out about how many to expect for budgeting purposes
 - Mayor will check with Lukas on their next zoom call
- Monument
 - Show the milestone years
 - Serves as a foundation
 - One monument and just adding an insert each year
 - Use wood and stone to represent both Jasper and Pfaffenweiler
 - Need to find a location indoors
 - Mayor to reach out to Kyle Rupert at the Arts to see if the Cultural Center would make sense (Atrium area)
 - Possible QR codes for each year to take individuals to photos of each trip
 - Will technology like that be around?
 - Include milestones, awards, years, programs
 - Stan to get to scale
 - See attached photos of a draft diagram of the monument
- Planned activities for guest while in Jasper
 - Lukas mentioned some tours are good but not to have one everyday
 - Partnership meeting
 - Museum Tour
 - French Lick Tour
 - Walking Tour downtown – ending at St. Benedicts
- Host Family list of activities/experiences if they want to do that on days they have nothing planned or if they stay longer than the week.
 - Disc Golf
 - Aquatic Center will be open
 - Historical walking tour
 - Tell City Pretzel
 - Bomber Game
 - Golf
 - Sisters of St. Benedict

- Patoka Lake
- So much more
- Partnership Celebration
 - Look to have the Schnitzelbank cater
 - Provide the Pfaffenweiler guests with drink tickets
- We need to be sure we have enough host families available
- Students from Staufen do come to JHS on the exchange program. Will the trip be open to other villages? How do we reach out to those past student exchanges?
 - That is Pfaffenweiler's call on who they send the invite to, however Mayor will discuss with Lukas.
- We need to look at transportation for when they guests are here.
 - Jasper bus, gas, and drivers

Other Business

How do we share and keep historical information for years to come.

- Possible Eagle Scout Project to start videos and add to the website
- Dan Otto's class project

Dan Otto – won the German Embassy of Excellence Award

In November, Lukas approved double funding for exchange students and adults. The funding has been the same for many years.

Wine Queen event – still looking for more volunteers to help set up and decorate. If you or someone you know would like to help reach out to Mary Leah.

Andrea Gramelspacher motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kim Lottes seconded.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be determined at a later date.