

Jasper Partnership Commission

Meeting Minutes 1/23/2025

7:30 am – Upstairs Conference Room

ROLL CALL

Max Verkamp

Mayor Vonderheide

Lisa Bower

Stan Jochum (via phone)

Irene Kapp

Andrea Gramelspacher

Steffi Schmuecker

Tracy Lorey

Guests:

Mary Leah Siegel

Corie Eckerle

CALL TO ORDER / MINUTES

Max called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Mayor Vonderheide made the motion to accept the minutes from the November 22, 2024, Partnership Commission meeting with the correction that the total cost for the anniversary monument is projected to be \$20,000 with \$15,000 being the cost from Schum. Tracy Lorey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Welcome

Welcome to Tracy Lorey for joining the Partnership Commission.

Member Update

Max Verkamp remains President, Stan Jochum remains Vice President, and Lisa Bower remains Recording Secretary of the Partnership Commission. Irene Kapp made the motion, and Mayor Vonderheide seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Financial Report

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

Max presented the 2024 Income and Expenses. Mayor Vonderheide made a motion to approve as presented and Tracy Lorey seconded the motion. The motion carried.
See attached for the report.

Discussion of the 2025 visit from Pfaffenweiler – 40th Anniversary

- Reviewed current finances
 - See attached excel sheet
- # of Attendees
 - As of 11/13 call between Mayor Vonderheide and Lukas, there are approximately 65 individuals (30 family units)

- Matthias Hilger has an updated list of guests
- Dave and Sandy Wehr are hosting four guests
- 40th Anniversary Monument Project
 - Funds update:
 - Friends of the Arts granted \$7,500
 - Will need to promote their gift as we publicize
 - Mary Leah Siegel will submit a grant to the Indiana German Heritage Society for \$2,500
 - Stan has a private donor request for \$5,000
 - Seifert Construction is providing an in-kind donation with the equipment that will be used to set the stone
 - Priority is getting a list of dates/events for the stone. The list needs to be final by May 20th. Pfaffenweiler is also looking at the list.
 - A replica of the plaque/emblem will be sent to Pfaffenweiler
 - Mary Leah Siegel mentioned the QR code that is on the stone can be linked to the Sister Cities page with more details relating to each event.
 - Location will be at the Train Depot across from the buffalo
 - Dedication will be on Saturday, August 2nd at noon
 - Will have signage to acknowledge sponsors for the weekend (Mary Leah will help with getting)
 - Sound System from the German Club (Mary Leah will get)
- Scheduled tours/activities while in Jasper
 - Thursday reception before Opening Ceremony
 - Black Box Room at Cultural Center
 - 4-4:30pm – Band practice with Mark Messmer
 - Chad Gayso confirmed we can secure necessary instruments
 - Welcome 4:30-5:30pm
 - The city will provide snacks
 - Water to be donated by Schnucks (Corie Eckerle to handle)
 - Tables will be reserved for our guests at the Opening Ceremony
 - Tour of Dubois County Museum
 - 30-minute overview, then guests can tour on their own
 - Host families to provide transportation
 - Partnership Meeting
 - Friday, August 1st from 9-11:30am
 - City will provide Coffee and Donuts
 - Both Mayors to give city updates
 - Possibly come up with a common financial budget
 - Lunch will be at the Strassenfest booths using Strassenfest Bucks provided by the City
 - Corie Eckerle will reserve tables in the family section of the bier garten for the guests.
 - Will the group participate in the parade
 - Mary Leah is looking for a flat bed to build the float on
 - Wanting to do a mockup of the monument

- The group will be at the beginning of the parade so they can watch the parade after they are done

- Tour of Jasper
 - Tuesday, August 5th
 - City
 - Max to provide a map/list
 - Max will also check with Lukas to see if he has any places in particular
 - Indiana Furniture
 - Greater Jasper will provide two drivers and two buses
- Celebration
 - Tuesday, August 5th – 6pm
 - KlubHaus 61
 - Book music for the celebration
 - Steffi to check with Next Act on ideas
 - American Food
 - Mary Leah has decorations that can be used
 - Andrea Gramelspacher will make Save the Dates and a Flyer
 - Will have a Save the Date at the Wine and Dine event in February

Other Business

- Mary Leah - Wine and Dine event at KlubHaus 61 on February 15th , tickets are still available.
- Stan Jochum – Thank you to Tracy Lorey for her professionalism and educational support in the German program and Congratulations on your new role with the state.
- Corie Eckerle
 - Hofmarschalls will be announced next week
 - April 1 is the deadline for the Strassenfest booklet
- Mayor motioned to adjourn the meeting. Steffi seconded.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held Wednesday, February 26th at 8am in the Pfaffenweiler Room.