

Jasper Partnership Commission

Meeting Minutes 2/26/2025

8:00 am – Upstairs Conference Room

ROLL CALL

Max Verkamp

Lisa Bower

Stan Jochum (via phone)

Irene Kapp

Andrea Gramenspacher

Steffi Schmuecker

Guests:

Mary Leah Siegel (via phone)

Corie Eckerle

CALL TO ORDER / MINUTES

Max called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Andrea Gramenspacher made the motion to accept the minutes from January 23, 2025, Steffi Schmuecker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Housekeeping Note

Max will be here for the Strassenfest; however, he will miss the Celebration due to leaving on a flight to Denver to see his son. Stan Jochum agreed to cover for him in his place.

Discussion of the 2025 visit from Pfaffenweiler – 40th Anniversary

- Reviewed current finances
 - See attached excel sheet
- # of Attendees
 - 57 attendees as of yesterday.
 - Stan commented there will be two additional
 - Mary Leah will confirm later but believes Lucia, her boyfriend, and another couple will be attending as well.
 - Host Families
 - We are short on a few host families. Max will put something in the German Club Newsletter and Mary Leah will reach out to Patti Brosmer.
 - Host Family Meeting
 - Schedule mid to late June in the Council Chambers at City Hall
- 40th Anniversary Monument Project
 - Funds update:
 - All funding for requests is in the pipeline except for the Indiana German Heritage Society, that will be submitted when ready.
 - Mary Leah Siegel will submit a grant to the Indiana German Heritage Society for \$2,500
 - Schum Monuments is taking care of helping with the digging
 - The hole will be 96" long x 18" wide x 20" deep

- Will need a city truck to load the dirt into and haul off
 - Max, Mayor, Matt, Mary Leah, and Stan have the list of what should go on the wings of the monument. The list will need to be reviewed and finalized by May 15.
 - Pfaffenweiler has a list as well they will finalize
 - Sister Cities crest – above stone in bronze with the black, red, and yellow incorporated. The crest will be 18-20”
 - Booklet information for the fest needs to be sent to Corie by April 1st.
 - Location will be at the Train Depot across from the buffalo
 - Dedication will be on Saturday, August 2nd at noon
- 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)
 - Tour of Dubois County Museum
 - 30-minute overview, then guests can tour on their own
 - After the 30-minute overview, Mary Jo Meuser will be honored
 - Partnership Meeting
 - Friday, August 1st from 9-11:30am
 - Lunch will be at the Strassenfest booths using Strassenfest coupons provided by the City. Reviewed and discussed the revised tickets.
 - Topics to be determined
 - 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
 - Discussion about having translators on the tours
 - City
 - Max provided ideas:
 - **Parklands** – possibly have golf carts available to ride the paths
 - St. Joseph Church Tour/St. Joseph Cemetery
 - **City Hall**
 - **Jasper City Mill**/Jasper Train Depot
 - **Thyen-Clark Cultural Center**
 - Alexander School House/Schaeffer Barn
 - Max sent the list to Lukas to get his thoughts.
 - Bold is what the Partnership thought would be good stops.
- Celebration
 - Tuesday, August 5th – 6pm
 - KlubHaus 61

- What is the facility cost? Lisa to reach out to Allen Hanselman
- Kyle Lueken to provide music
- Lisa to schedule a meeting with Allen Hanselman, Steffi, and Andrea to review the menu for the event
- Mary Leah has decorations that can be used. Andrea will have flowers we can use as well.
- Release tickets on June 1st.
 - Andrea Gramelspacher create the tickets (approx. 120)
 - Tickets will be sold at City Hall
 - Mary Leah said we can tap into Sister Cities Eventbrite for online tickets
 - Will only reserve tables for dignitaries, all others will be general admission tickets
 - Tickets will be given to all Pfaffenweiler Guests and two tickets for host families
 - If more in the host family attend, they will need to purchase the additional tickets.

Other Business

- Mary Leah - Wine and Dine event update
 - 118 tickets sold with 15 of the ticket holders having the flu
 - Received donations towards the food and local wines
 - Do not have an exact number yet but made a profit of over \$2,000
 - Had the first heads or tails game during the event as a fundraiser
 - The food was excellent with the culinary exchange participating
 - Had the music stopped due to getting late, people were having fun, but the event could have lasted longer. Attendees really seemed to enjoy the event.
- Corie Eckerle
 - April 1 is the deadline for the Strassenfest booklet
 - Glockenspiel Saturday from 6-6:30pm
 - If the choir/band does not want to perform they could acknowledge all the visitors from Pfaffenweiler
 - Will be serving 2-3 Pfaffenweiler wines in the beer garden this year due to the celebration.
- Max Verkamp
 - Was asked by Laura Grammer if the Partnership Commission would like to MC the Glockenspiel one day during the fest. He declined this year as there is so much going on. He told them to reach out next year as a possibility.
- Irene Kapp motioned to adjourn the meeting. Andrea Gramelspacher seconded.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held Wednesday, April 2nd at 8am in the Upstairs Conference Room.