

Jasper Partnership Commission

Meeting Minutes 4/2/2025

8:00 am – Upstairs Conference Room

ROLL CALL

Max Verkamp

Lisa Bower

Stan Jochum

Irene Kapp

Steffi Schmuecker

Mayor

Tracy Lorey

Kim Lottes

Guests:

Matthias Hilger

Mary Leah Siegel

Corie Eckerle

CALL TO ORDER / MINUTES

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

Steffi Schmuecker made the motion to accept the minutes from February 26, 2025, Irene Kapp seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion of the 2025 visit from Pfaffenweiler – 40th Anniversary

- Reviewed current finances
 - See attached excel sheet
- Attendees
 - 58 individuals/27 family units attendees as of yesterday.
 - Host Families
 - Lisa will reach out to find host families for the few we need. There are a few interested families that would like to host.
 - Mary Leah Siegel
 - Monte Young
 - Patty Brosmer
 - Janet Rydberg
 - Andrea Gramelspacher – family she knows possibly
 - Host Family Meeting
 - June 17th at 6pm in the Council Chambers at Jasper City Hall.
 - Lisa to send out a Welcome email to host families and guests once email addresses are received.
- Bricks
 - Oliva Otto recorded all the names of bricks at the Train Depot
 - Bricks have a two line/14 space maximum
 - Will need 38 total bricks
 - Partnership will pay for the bricks as it is in the budget

- Matthias Hilger will work on getting a list together for Nancy Eckerle by May 1st
- Mary Leah will work on getting the list updated on Sister Cities website and the City can link to the page as well.
- 40th Anniversary Monument Project
 - Funds update:
 - Friends of the Arts - \$7500
 - Dubois County Community Foundation - \$2500
 - Sister Cities - \$1,000
 - Jon Eckerle – will purchase the two bronze logos for each city – total of \$3800
 - Looking into a tourism grant
 - Individual donor - \$6200
 - German Heritage Foundation pending - \$2500
 - Schum Monuments is taking care of helping with the digging
 - The hole will be 96” long x 18” wide x 20” deep
 - A city truck will be provided for the dirt
 - Seufert Construction will donate help as well
 - Discussed having flood lights or some type of lighting on the monument which will add another expense that was not budgeted
 - QR code to be added with the history of each event on the monument
 - 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.
 - Pfaffenweiler has a list as well they will finalize
- Scheduled tours/activities while in Jasper
 - Tour of Dubois County Museum - Thursday, July 31st
 - Recognition of Mary Jo Meuser (15-20 minutes)
 - Thursday Reception before Opening Ceremony
 - Black Box Room at Cultural Center
 - Mark Messmer and Pfaffenweiler musicians will practice prior the event
 - Corie will get Max the music so that he can provide it to Karin
 - Opening Ceremony – Thursday, July 31st
 - Partnership Meeting – Friday morning, August 1st
 - Will be noticed as a public meeting so all are invited
 - State of the City
 - State of Pfaffenweiler
 - Review of Partnership Declaration from 2022
 - Review of exchange programs
 - Comments on monument
 - Saturday Night at 6 pm – Pfaffenweiler Musicians to perform at the Glockenspiel
 - Approximately 20 minutes
 - Parade
 - Two hay wagons that will be placed behind the Hofmarschalls for the Pfaffenweiler guests and anyone who would like to walk along
 - Tour of Jasper - Tuesday, August 5th

- Review potential City Sites
 - Max has sent to Lukas for input
- Lisa will send out an email sign up by early June
- Celebration - Tuesday, August 5th
 - Discuss Agenda
 - Pfaffenweiler Musicians to perform – 10-15 minutes
 - Can decorate on Monday if we are available
 - Mary Leah will provide decorations
 - Andrea will provide flowers
 - Discussed tickets to be available for the May German Club meeting
 - Will have physical tickets at City Hall
 - Will also use a platform from Sister Cities to sell tickets online
 - Lisa will keep track of the list of guests with online sales and physical tickets
 - Andrea will print tickets once she has the cost of the tickets
 - Steffi will get a list of what we need volunteers for and a sign up sheet
- Update from Strassenfest (Corie Eckerle)
 - Safety meeting coming up
 - Cinch sacs have been quoted from Mas Whatknots
 - The booklet of information looks good
 - Lisa to send Corie and Landon the “Bucks” for the vendors to see

Other Business

- Finishing Touches 2025 ornament approval
 - Not approved
 - The logo can't be broken
 - Needs an agreement if using the logo and selling the product
- Steffi Schmuecker motioned to adjourn the meeting. Irene Kapp seconded.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 14th at 8am in the Upstairs Conference Room.