

Sister Cities of Durham, NC, Inc. Bi-Monthly Meeting, Board of Directors
7:00 pm, Thursday, Sept. 7, 2023 Virtual Meeting, Hybrid and on Zoom

Attending: Tom Harris, Chris Boyer, Mark Goodwillie, Patricia Sheppard, Gwenn Bookman, Ronda Pierce, Elsa Jimenez, Randy Griffin, Yuki Temma, Lusia Li, Brady Surles. Dot Borden

Absent: Bob Ashley, Sue Mathias, Susanna Ochala, Min Shu, Sibiu, Tilaran.

Guests: Nancy Cox, Lew Meyers

7:04 pm: The meeting was called to order by President Tom Harris.

The minutes of the July 6, 2023 Board Meeting were approved, with the following addition:

“The Administrator task list approval was tabled until the November meeting.”

7:10 – 7:45: The Board then went into a Closed Session to review and approve the minutes of the July 6 closed session. the action from the closed session be added, "The administrator task list approval was tabled until the November meeting." Mitch 2nd and the vote was unanimous to add this language.

The Financial Report for the Fiscal year of 2022 -23 was not ready, and thus postponed to the next board meeting>

The proposed Budget was discussed. The decision to approve the Budget was postponed for further discussion.

President Tom Harris covered the following items:

1. Min Shu, a current board member, was nominated to be Treasurer. The appointment was approved.
2. El Centro Hispano, as an organization, and John Dimos, as an individual, were approved for the SCD/Mayor’s Award for “Promoting International Understanding”
3. Yuki Temma has agreed to be the Webmaster. .
4. It was decided to have the Annual meeting on Oct. 20 at City Hall, 5:30 – 7:00 pm
5. After a discussion of the proposed contract for the Office Manager, as approved and submitted by the Executive Committee, it was decided that it be tabled until the next Board meeting in November.
6. The Nominating committee submitted the following to be nominated:
 - a. Board Members to be voted on at the October Annual Meeting:
Nancy Cox and Mark Goodwillie for three year terms. Gwenn Bookman for a second term.
(Note: Chris Boyer is also eligible for a second term.)
 - b. Officers for 2023 – 24, to be voted on at the November Board Meeting for one year terms:
President – Tom Harris; Vice Pres – Chris Boyer; Secretary – Nancy Cox; Treasurer – Min Shu.
Both sets of nominations were approved.;
7. An announcement was made that Centerfest is Sept. 16 – 17, and SCD will have a booth.
8. Plans are being developed for a mini retreat for Board members orientation, and Planning. Possibly Nov. 4.
9. City Committee Reports:
 - a. Durham-UK Committee reported a very successful visit by Castle Theatre of Durham University, England. The group consisted of 12 students and in their four day visit, they performed a Shakespear play four times.
 - b. Kavala Committee reported on behalf of Celaya, Tilaran, and Kavala, that the “International Food Trucks Festival on Oct 8 at Durham Central Park is developing well with 9 international food trucks. They anticipate a very successful festival with food, beer stations, entertainment, and 1,500 attendees.

Announcements and Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Next Meetings: Annual Meet Oct 20; Regular Board meeting on Nov 2.

2023 Board Meetings, 1st Thursdays, 7 pm: March 2, May 4; July 6; Sept 7; Annual Meet– Oct. 20; Nov 2

2024 Board Meetings: 1st Thursdays: March 7; May 2; July 4; Sept 4; Oct 18? --For Annual Meet; Nov 7

Respectfully Submitted,
Brady Surles, Acting Secretary