

Notice of Public Meeting  
**Thursday, June 23, 2022**

**Meeting start:  
10:00 a.m.**

**DOOR COUNTY  
SISTER CITY INFORMAL  
ADVISORY GROUP**

**Door County Government Center**<sup>1</sup>  
Chambers Room  
(C102, 1st floor)  
421 Nebraska Street, Sturgeon Bay, WI

**AGENDA**

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Establish a quorum: roll call.
3. Election of vice-chair.
4. Adopt agenda/properly noticed.
5. Approve minutes of February 26, 2021 meeting.
6. Correspondence.
7. Public comment.
8. Review past history & accomplishments and recent activity areas:
  - a. Delegation visits to & from Jingdezhen, China
  - b. J1 Visa students from Jingdezhen, China in Door County
  - c. Information and gift display at Door County ADRC
  - d. Efforts to market Door County products in China
  - e. Taoxichuan Square, Jingdezhen
  - f. April 2021 virtual gathering with Jingdezhen, China representatives
9. Door County display for Jingdezhen Sister City building.
10. Future delegation visits to and from China.
11. County staff assigned to Sister City group.
12. Near and long-term goals and objectives:
  - a. County group as Sister City "umbrella"
  - b. Community partnerships
  - c. Other
13. Sister Cities International relationship/coordination.
14. Sustainability matters to be considered.
15. Legislative matters to be considered.
16. Matters to be placed on a future agenda or referred to a committee, official, or employee.
17. Set next meeting date.
18. Adjourn.

*Deviation from order shown may occur.*

Door County Sister City Informal Advisory Group  
Door County Government Center  
421 Nebraska Street  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

MKG/lr  
06/09/22

*Notice in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act: 1) Any person needing assistance to participate in this meeting should contact the Office of the County Clerk at (920) 746-2200. Notification 72 hours prior to a meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. 2) Door County is committed to making its electronic and information technology (e.g., website and contents) accessible for all persons. If you encounter difficulty accessing the posted materials for this meeting, located on-line at <https://www.co.door.wi.gov/AgendaCenter> under the committee name, please call (920) 746-2323, or send a FAX to (920) 746-2387, or send an e-mail [Lriemer@co.door.wi.us](mailto:Lriemer@co.door.wi.us) so that we may determine how to best assist you.*

**Anyone wishing to speak must attend in person.**

Members of the public who wish to simply monitor/observe the meeting may attend in person or do so remotely by using the link below, or via the Zoom smartphone app, or by calling (312) 626-6799.

**Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81861016679?pwd=QmxLUXZWeE1lQ0cvcFNmMdmVWVkhQT09>

**Zoom Webinar ID:** 818 6101 6679

**Passcode:** 679114

These minutes have not been reviewed by the oversight committee and are subject to approval at the next regular committee meeting.

**Minutes of the  
DOOR COUNTY SISTER CITY INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP  
Friday, February 26, 2021**

**1.0 Open meeting.**

Goode called the meeting of the Door County Jingdezhen Sister City Ad Hoc Informal Advisory Group to order at 10:36 a.m. in the Chambers Room of the Door County Government Center, 421 Nebraska Street, Sturgeon Bay, WI.

Advisory Group Members

Present: Elizabeth Gauger  
Bill Schuster  
Morgan Rusnack  
Kara Counard (via WebEx)  
Bob Bultman

Others present

Mariah Goode  
Grant Thomas  
Ken Pabich  
Laura Vlies-Wotachek

Others present via WebEx

Don Freix  
John Shanahan  
Kevin Grohskopf

Excused: Bill Chaudoir

**2.0 Verification of proper notice and posting procedures; quorum present; adoption of the agenda.**

After verifying that proper notice and posting procedures had occurred, there was a motion by Schuster, seconded by Gauger, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

**3.0 Elect chair.**

Motion by Bultman, seconded by Rusnack, to nominate Gauger as chair. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

**4.0 Elect vice-chair.**

Motion by Bultman, seconded by Gauger, to nominate Rusnack as vice-chair. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

**5.0 Public comment.**

- a) Information may be received from members of the public.**
- b) Extensive discussion and all action must be deferred until and unless specific notice of the subject matter is included on the agenda.**

Freix spoke regarding his support for the committee but concern over political activities and human rights abuses in China and how/if the United States might be inadvertently supporting those efforts.

Grohskopf introduced himself as a former delegate to Jingdezhen.

Vlies-Wotachek explained her participation in the 2018 delegation to Jingdezhen and economic development-related activities she has been involved with since.

John Shanahan indicated he excited for the group to be reconvening and getting back to work.

## 6.0 Correspondence.

None.

## 7.0 Read and act on minutes of February 17, 2020.

Motion by Schuster, seconded by Bultman, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Advisory group members, staff, and others present then had free-ranging conversation on agenda items 8.0-13.0 for almost two hours. A brief summary of each topic discussed may be found below.

## 8.0 Review past history and accomplishments of the program and recent activity areas:

- **Delegation visits to & from Jingdezhen, China**

Goode and Thomas presented a timeline that outlines the development of the sister city relationship and delegation visits in both directions. They will e-mail the timeline to advisory group members.

- **J1 students from Jingdezhen, China in Door County**

J1 students from Jingdezhen came in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Hopefully they will begin coming again in 2022, if 2021 doesn't work out due to COVID-19.

- **Information and gift display at ADRC**

Gifts Door County has received from Jingdezhen are displayed at the ADRC.

- **Efforts to market Door County products in China**

Jingdezhen has offered space to Door County to sell products. What could also happen is for businesses to sell items on consignment. Vlies-Wotachek has worked on this matter and hopes to reinvigorate it.

- **Taoxichuan Square (fence yet to be completed)**

The Door County area of the square has a fence within which local art depicting scenes of Door County could be placed.

- **Possible signs at county entrances on STHs 42, 57**

Grant has looked into the matter; the DOT does not allow such signs in the right-of-way. Placing them outside the right-of-way likely wouldn't work, as they wouldn't be legible from the road unless they were quite large.

## 9.0 April 2021 virtual gathering with Jingdezhen, China representatives.

After some discussion, it was decided that the advisory group should meet virtually in April with Parker and Yanjun, so new members can get to know our main contacts in China and vice-versa. Grant will contact Parker to obtain some potential meeting dates that would work for him.

#### **10.0 Potential 2022 delegation visit from China.**

Later this year or early in 2022 Door County will extend an invitation to Jingdezhen folks to visit us.

#### **11.0 Potential 2022 delegation visit(s) to China.**

There is significant informal interest from several advisory group members in being part of a delegation in 2022. Grant will also ask Parker if it would be possible for a very small delegation to visit for the ceramics fair in 2021, in case anyone is willing and able to do so.

#### **12.0 Near and long-term goals and objectives:**

- **County group as Sister City “umbrella”**
- **Community partnerships**
- **Other**

The Door County view of the relationship with Jingdezhen is that it should involve the broader community, not just (county) government. It is still important to have county officials involved in larger delegations, though, as that seems to be important to Jingdezhen.

The county advisory group has previously discussed acting as the “umbrella” for other sister city relationships that may form involving the county or any of its sub-areas. Each sister city relationship and its activities would be independent; the advisory group would simply offer the relationships formal recognition/connection to county board.

#### **13.0 Sister Cities International relationship/coordination.**

Door County pays for annual membership in Sister Cities International. Shanahan explained that he has tried over the past few years to work with state-level Sister Cities International folks to have some sort of conference or meeting with other WI communities in sister city relationships, to no avail. Maybe the best thing to do would be to just have a virtual meeting with some of the groups on our own.

#### **14.0 Set next meeting date.**

Next meeting date will likely be in April, and will be dependent on Parker’s schedule.

#### **15.0 Meeting per diem code.**

Chair Gauger assigned code 226.

#### **16.0 Adjourn.**

Motion by Bultman, seconded by Counard, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Reported by,

Mariah Goode