

MANITOWOC INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ASSOCIATION  
MEETING AUGUST 27, 2019 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
OF CITY HALL, 900 QUAY STREET, MANITOWOC, WI

IN ATTENDANCE: Justin Nickels, Mayor, Cindy Kaesermann, MIRA President, Lori Denk, Tina Prigge, Jim Larson, Kay Larson, Scott McMeans, Kelly Meyer, Bob LeClair and Debbie Gainey

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:00 PM by Cindy Kaesermann

Cindy Kaesermann announced that she will step down as MIRA President. She wishes to stay involved and is willing to take the Vice-President role previously held by Wanda LeClair. Tina Prigge is interested in the role of MIRA President. By the end of the year, Justin Nickels and Scott McMeans will handle the formal process of leadership change.

Cindy Kaesermann requested that going forward, the MIRA President, MIRA Vice-President, and the city all have administrative access to the MIRA Web and Facebook pages.

FINANCE: Justin Nickels said that MIRA will continue to work on transparency. Showing where any money comes and goes will show how the city of Manitowoc benefits from MIRA. A yearly budget will be made. Any expenses incurred will be billed to the city directly instead of receipts being reimbursed. In response to a member's question, any unused funds stay where they are for future use.

FUNDRAISING: In the future, MIRA will have fundraisers to increase the general fund. A list of everyone involved in MIRA past or present will be made and invited to a fundraiser, possibly a picnic tying in with the Tokyo Olympics in 2020. Fundraising options will be discussed at a future meeting.

THE NEXT ADULT DELEGATION TRIP from Kamogawa will be here for the 30<sup>th</sup> sister-city anniversary in 2023. Manitowoc is looking to possibly send a small delegation in 2021.

THE PEN PAL PROGRAM is set for the upcoming school year. Tina Prigge spoke with some 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers who are excited for the program. In September Tina will visit classrooms to speak with some classes about Kamogawa and the pen pal program.

ART EXCHANGE: The Manitowoc items were sent to Kamogawa in early July. They were received and will be displayed in fall. The items from Kamogawa will be sent in late December and be displayed at the Rahr West for youth art month. Artwork in the exchange is not returned.

THE 2019 STUDENT EXCHANGE went well. Four students from the Manitowoc area visited Kamogawa and six students from Kamogawa visited Manitowoc. There will not be a student exchange in 2020 as the time coincides with the Olympics in Tokyo. Some Olympic events will be in Kamogawa.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:45 PM. The next MIRA meeting will be in a few months with the date to be determined.