

## Meeting Minute

Version No.1 | 20 July 2012

Han Jie Davis | Economic Development & Innovation

<b>Meeting Name.</b>	Sister City Economic & Cultural Development Advisory Committee Meeting	<b>Meeting No.</b>	9
<b>Meeting Date</b>	20 July 2012		
<b>Meeting Time</b>	15:30-18:45		
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Meeting Room Conference, Cathedral Ave		
<b>Attendees</b>	Chris Gabelish (Chair)	<b>By Invitation</b>	
	Rob Jefferies Ron Ashplant Bert Beevers Peter Klein Han Jie Davis Jimmy Ho (Minutes)	<b>Apologies</b>	Mike Kendall Meredith Wills Karen Godfrey Bill Headley
		<b>Distribution</b>	as above

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome/Apologies

- i) Apologies: as above

#### 2. Previous Meeting Minutes – 12 April 2012

Actions: review status:

- i. Bukittinggi visit
  - a) The Sister City Economic & Cultural Development Advisory Committee recommended the discussion on the visit to Bukittinggi is to be deferred for the time being.
- ii Kosai Sister City Relationship:
  - a) In view of the fact that there has been no further response from correspondence sent from the Mayor of City of Greater Geraldton to the Mayor of Kosai in September 2011, the Sister City Committee agreed to recommend to Council not to pursue this Sister City Relationship any further. Action – Council Agenda Item for Council consideration.
- iii. Italian Delegation Update
  - a) Tony Brun to report outcomes of the visit to the Sister City Committee - PENDING

iv. China – Post Official Visit Coordination

- a) Gifts received and MOU's signed during the last China official visit in March 2012 will be presented to Council at the upcoming Council Meeting Concept Forum;

**3) Industry Promotion of Sister City Relationship with China**

i. Economic & Resource Summit 2012

- a) A 15-minute presentation on the background, opportunities and benefits of forming the Sister City Relationship between Geraldton WA and a China City is to be included at the Economic & Resources Summit to be held in Geraldton on 21-22 August 2012.
- b) A survey exercise to gather inputs and feedback (via email) from all delegates participated in the China trip is suggested and these inputs will then be compiled and presented during the Resource Summit;
- c) The content of this email survey should focus on the benefits and other potential demand-driven opportunities to be derived from the Sister City relationship with China and it has to be initiated and completed prior to the Resource Summit;

ii. China - Sub-Committee Formation

- a) Updates were provided on the latest initiatives taken by Geraldton Grammar School and Mid West Multicultural Association of Geraldton, WA to encourage teaching of Mandarin in Geraldton;
- b) City staff to draft Terms of Reference with purpose of identifying a clear vision, objective, scopes and work groups prior to forming this sub-committee;

**4) Recommendations for forming the Sister City relationship with Zhanjiang, Guangdong, CHINA**

**i) Presentation of Background info -:**

- a)** Following the signing of MOU with Zhanjiang City during the China trip, a letter of thanks (endorsed by the Sister City Committee, on behalf of the Mayor) was sent to the Mayors of all the cities we visited in March. As the response from Zhanjiang City, Mr Wang Zhongbing, the Mayor of Zhanjiang indicated their wish to officially form Sister City relationship between Zhanjiang and Geraldton, and a statement is required by their Foreign Affairs Office in May.
- b)** As required by the Zhanjiang Foreign Affairs Office, and as per the MOU signed between Geraldton and Zhanjiang City in March 2012, after full due diligence and review by the Committee against the Council's Policy, the Committee recommends to Council the recommendation for endorsement to officially form Sister City relationship with Zhanjiang.

**ii) Council Endorsement –**

- a)** Agenda item to be prepared on behalf of the Sister City Committee for recommendation to form official Sister City Relationship with Zhanjiang, China in the next Council Meeting – *Moved by Ron, seconded by Bert.*

**5) General**

i) Establishing 'Strategic Partnership' with City of Zhoushan, China.

- a) The following recommendation was accepted by the Sister City Committee Members by email on the week beginning the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2012:

RECOMMENDATION:

As recommended by the Zhejiang Provincial Government and the DSD, the Committee endorses progression toward cooperation relationship with Zhoushan City. The Committee does this based upon:

- i) The interim assessment of Zhoushan against the Sister City selection criteria.
  - ii) The knowledge that Zhoushan City has recently been granted higher status by the State Council of China in 2011. This means that, after the cities of Tianjin Binhai, Chongqing Liangjiang and Shanghai Pudong, the City of Zhoushan is now declared as the fourth New Area City by the State Council. Zhoushan is effectively designated by the Central Government as a major growth city.
  - iii) Understanding that the City of Zhoushan, while keen to establish a Sister City relationship with Geraldton, understands that we are early in our process and does not wish to pressure us into a rapid decision. Regardless of future directions and decisions, Zhoushan City will remain happy to open its doors to Geraldton for communication, engagement and collaboration.
  - iv) Mutual understanding that a Strategic Partnership is different from a formal Sister City relationship, and that a strategic partnership with Zhoushan will enable collaboration and information exchange identifying potential areas where both sides could deliver benefits for the two cities and – importantly – enable the relationship to evolve and develop in the mutual future interests of both cities.
  - v) The broader significance of the process of signing a letter of intent for the strategic partnership, witnessed by the Governor of Zhejiang and a WA Leader, signifying recognition of Geraldton by, and enabling development of higher level engagement with Zhejiang Province – noting that establishment of a relationship between Geraldton and Zhoushan City has been recommended by the Zhejiang Provincial Government.
  - vi) The importance of a relationship between Geraldton and Zhoushan, within the important long-standing relationship between the State of Western Australia and the Province of Zhejiang, and the honour bestowed upon Geraldton by being recognized by their Provincial Government.
- a) This is an initiative recommended to the City of Zhoushan, China by the Governor of Zhejiang Province, China and Department of State Development DSD following the official visit of Zhejiang delegates to Geraldton, WA in May 2012.
  - b) In addition to the note provided on the comparison of Zhoushan against the Sister City selection criteria, the Committee had requested the city of Zhoushan to be included into the China - Sister Cities Comparison Chart for better understanding and analysis of Zhoushan's comparative advantages and potential outcomes if compare to other cities identified earlier;
  - c) The Committee has also agreed in principle to establish the "Strategic Relationship" with Zhoushan, China during their official visit (scheduled on the 8-9 August 2012). This decision is made given the short notice given and time available to conduct a more comprehensive due diligence study on the proposal. It is therefore requested that a background info paper together with the updated Sister Cities Comparison Chart (with Zhoushan included) and other relevant info are to be submitted to the upcoming council meeting for further consideration and endorsement – **Moved by Bert, seconded by Peter.**
- ii) Official Visit of Zhoushan, China Delegation to Geraldton WA
    - a) The Committee was officially informed of the officiate Zhoushan delegation visit to Geraldton WA scheduled on the 8-9 August 2012, with a proposed visit itinerary being presented for acknowledgement;
    - b) The Chair and/or representative of the committee are also requested to be present at the Airport on the 8 August 2012 for welcoming the Zhoushan delegation. Invitation for a luncheon to be hosted by the City and other visiting activities on the 9 August 2012 will also be sent to the committee once confirmed;

- c) Other meeting requirements and logistics coordination i.e transport, site visits, business presentations will be led and organised by the City's Economic Development & Foreign Affairs dept.
  
- iii) Official Visit of Beijing Xicheng Delegation to Geraldton WA
  - a) The Committee was also briefed on the proposed visit by Beijing Xicheng delegation by end of September 2012, and opportunities to further promote students exchange programs (i.e. with Durack) and other cooperation opportunities in science and technology development with Beijing Xicheng District were also highlighted;
  - b) The Committee suggested that City Staff present on the potential of Geraldton Technology Park and facilitate discussions on potential opportunities to cooperate in specific areas related to science and information technology development between the two cities;
  
- iv) Proposal - The School of Hoops Basketball Program
  - a) The committee was briefed on the School of Hoops proposal to facilitate market penetration into Chinese cities with cooperation relationship with Geraldton, WA, in particular the city of Lishui, of which has indicated their interest on the concept during the last China delegation visit to the said city;
  - b) Upon consideration, the Committee raised concern and indicated that more information and clarification on the actual scope of request – whether the school requires sponsorship, endorsement and/or letter of support from the Committee/City before the next course of action on the proposed program can be decided;
  - c) The Committee has also highlighted the need to establish some forms of process, guidelines, disclaimers and procedures to accept and deal with similar requests/proposals submitted to the Committee in the future;
  
- v) Proposal – ACDC Arts Exhibition
  - a) Similar to item 5(iv) discussed earlier, the Committee requested more information and details on what is required/expected before the Committee can decide as to whether to endorse and/or facilitate the said proposal.
  - b) A meeting between the City staff and representative from ACDC is to be scheduled to discuss on the scope and requirement of this proposal, with outcome of this meeting will be reported back to the committee in due course.

## **6. Next Meeting**

- i) To be confirmed