

April 1, 2009
Township Building

The regular meeting of the Twinning Committee was held tonight, Chairman Jim McCann presiding. Members present were Alan Barrows, Bill Chambres, Penny Geikler, Dorothy Spruill, Mary Washington and Andrea White. Staff present was Nancy K. Gibson, Public Information Officer, and Bryan T. Havir, Assistant Township Manager.

1. Upon motion of Mr. Chambres, and approved by committee, the minutes of the March 4, 2009, meeting were accepted.

2. Mr. McCann reported just one lottery winner in March for a total payout of \$25. The lottery account total currently stands at \$9,095.03. Ms. Geikler is still planning to circulate the fliers Ms. Gibson provided to advertise the lottery.

3. Members discussed the sunset provision scheduled to end the committee's existence in June. Members reviewed four options: (1) end the committee in June, (2) immediately attempt to become a 501c3 entity, (3) request another extension in order to become a 501c3 entity or (4) request the elimination of a sunset provision to become a permanent Township committee. Mr. McCann listed the advantages of a 501c3: the ability to enhance fund-raising since donations would be tax deductible and the option to expand members to non-residents. The disadvantages include the cost of insurance, and the need to secure a meeting place and secretarial services for minutes and other paperwork. Ms. Gibson clarified that the committee has a sunset provision because it was not intended to become a permanent Township committee. It was supposed to follow the model of the Evesham Twinning group that was a township committee for two years until members organized themselves as a 501c3. Since the committee has far exceeded the two-year window and is not any closer to becoming a 501c3, upon motion of Mr. Spruill, and approved by committee, the committee unanimously requests the removal of the sunset provision to become a permanent Township committee.

4. Mr. McCann reported that the visit of the Cheltenham (UK) Ladies College Lacrosse Teams this past weekend was a great success. Although he learned about the visit less than a week in advance, he was able to get committee members to attend the varsity and junior varsity games on Saturday and a dinner for the teams on Sunday night at Glenside Hall, where committee members received a round of applause. He thanked the members who donated desserts for the dinner, which were greatly appreciated. The Township gave the UK visitors copies of the *The History of Cheltenham Township* by Elaine Rothschild (donated by the Historical Commission), Centennial pins, Centennial magnets, and current Township calendars. Mr. McCann thanked Ms. Gibson for coordinating a lot of the efforts and preparing the Proclamations declaring Sunday “LaCrosse Twinning Day” in Cheltenham Township. Ms. Washington commented that the *Times Chronicle* ran an article on the visit but did not mention twinning. Mr. Chambres applauded the committee but was disappointed that the high school coach did not tell the Township or School Board about the visit in advance because it was a missed opportunity for great publicity. Ms. Gibson has requested copies of the School District photos of the game, and Mr. McCann volunteered to give her copies of his photos, so she still hopes to get more publicity. Ms. Gibson commented that Annette Wight also did not know about the visit and would like some photos as well.

5. Under *Project Reports*, the following items were discussed:

A. **Fingerpost Sign:** Mr. McCann has had further communication with a manufacturer but has still not received a quote. He recommended that the “finger” pointing to Cheltenham UK have a special design indicating that it is an official twin, as opposed to the fingers pointing to other Cheltenham. He also recited the history of a Cheltenham in Missouri. He has not met with Mr. Havir and Ms. Washington regarding the design. Mr. Chambres reported he had not met with Mr. Greenberg regarding fund-raising.

B. **Video Conversion:** No report.

C. **E-Newsletter:** Ms. Gibson will forward photos of the lacrosse visit to Mr. Chambres for the newsletter.

D. **Gym Link:** Mr. Barrows said the gyms have made a lot of progress in crafting how their “race” will work. He anticipates each will use just one machine to track the miles, so the event should take about four weeks to complete. The gyms will update the progress regularly. Ms. Gibson asked if updates would be done electronically, so it could be posted on the Township’s website. The gyms are discussing creating T-shirts for the event. A plaque may serve as the trophy since it would be easiest to transport back and forth. The committee is willing to contribute financially for the project, if requested. Mr. Barrows expects to have final details in May for a launch later that month.

E. **Playhouse Link:** Ms. Spruill reported that the UK playhouse does not have a standing troupe of players. Neither does the Cheltenham Center for the Arts. Consequently, she proposes including the histories of each playhouse in the handbill of the other. She also expressed an interest in contacting a travel agency to assist with twinning exchanges, as per the lacrosse visit. Mr. McCann will see if he can discover the name of that agency.

F. **Kimmel Center Summer Camp:** Ms. Gibson reported that Ms. Wight was doubtful anyone would participate in the camp because UK school breaks don’t coincide with US breaks, but she would pass along the invitation. Unless a UK applicant emerges, this project is considered closed.

G. **E-Penpals:** Ms Washington reported that the principal of Myers Elementary School volunteered to serve as the e-penpal for the Cheltenham UK mother and son who requested one. Ms. Washington will track that progress. Ms. Spruill did not receive the UK school contact information for e-penpals for Ancillae Academy because she has no access to her computer at the moment. Ms. Gibson will print her a copy of the email.

6. Under *Old Business*, Ms. White reported that she has been unsuccessful in establishing contact with a UK librarian to compare library services. She asked Ms. Gibson to see if Ms. Wight could provide her with a good contact.

7. Under *New Business*, the following items were discussed:

A. Ms. Washington volunteered to create and maintain a Twinning archive. She and Ms. White will investigate the materials that will be needed and report at the next meeting.

B. At Mr. Barrow's inquiry, Ms. Gibson reported that committee currently has two openings.

C. Mr. McCann distributed copies of a recipe for "Cheltenham Cakes."

D. Ms. Spruill announced that a local community organization is seeking a grant to create a World War II exhibit to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the start of the war. She intends to create a companion exhibit for the Wall House Museum and would like to investigate if Cheltenham UK might be willing to loan material (or copies) from that era to include with the exhibit. Ms. White will ask her own mother if she would be willing to loan her high school yearbook from that era for the exhibit.

8. There being no further business, upon motion of Ms. Washington, and approved by committee, the meeting was adjourned.

David G. Kraynik
Township Manager

Per Nancy K. Gibson
Public Information Officer

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