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**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-\_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS, AMENDING ARTICLE IV. SECTION 30-60 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO DECREASE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE, ADD A PROVISION FOR ABSENTEE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AND THE REMOVAL OF GENDER-SPECIFIC LANGUAGE; CONTAINING A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND DECLARING EFFECTIVE DATES.**

WHEREAS, the Partnership Committee in a regular meeting held on 11 July, 2023, voted to decrease the number of committee members from 15 to 11; and

WHEREAS, the decrease in the number of committee members will become effective September 1, 2024, to coincide with the Fall boards and commissions appointments;

WHEREAS, the Partnership Committee in a regular meeting held on 10 October, 2023 voted to add a provision to the Partnership Committee ordinance for absentee committee members and to remove gender-specific language; and

WHEREAS, the provision for absentee committee members and the removal of gender-specific language will become effective March 1, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS:

**I.**

THAT the City of New Braunfels Code of Ordinances Section 30-60 is hereby amended as follows:

**Sec. 30-60. Purpose.**

There is hereby created the New Braunfels Partnership Committee whose purpose is to create and strengthen partnerships between the city and its citizens and Braunfels, Germany, and its citizens, and any other city and its citizens outside the United States approved by the city council as a "sister city" of New Braunfels in an effort to foster and promote cultural, economic, recreational, and educational understanding between the cities and its citizens. The New Braunfels Partnership Committee shall work with the citizens of the community, local schools, businesses, and civic groups to educate and facilitate participation in programs designed to enhance the partnership(s) between the

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city and Braunfels, Germany, and any other city approved by the city council. In order to facilitate such partnerships and understanding, the city may participate, through the New Braunfels Partnership Committee, in the Texas Sister Cities Program and/or the Sister Cities International Program.

(Ord. No. 2009-55, § 2, 8-10-09)

**Sec. 30-61. Members, terms, appointments.**

(a) The New Braunfels Partnership Committee shall be composed of 11 citizens residing in the city or the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city, with staggered three-year terms. The mayor shall nominate citizens to the committee and the city council shall approve said nominations. The nominations and appointments of committee members shall be on a rotating basis so that five members shall be appointed each year. Vacancies on the committee shall be filled in a like manner for the unexpired term of the vacant position on the committee. The mayor of the city shall be an ex-officio member of the committee.

(b) A committee member shall be assumed to have resigned from the committee and the committee member's position considered vacant if the committee member is absent from two meetings of the committee within a one-year period. This provision may be waived or suspended upon a finding by majority vote of the committee that one or more of the absences should be excused.

(Ord. No. 2009-55, § 2, 8-10-09)

**Sec. 30-62. Officers.**

The New Braunfels Partnership Committee shall have a chair, vice chair, secretary and any additional officers approved by the committee in accordance with its bylaws.

(Ord. No. 2009-55, § 2, 8-10-09)

**Sec. 30-63. Powers and duties.**

- (a) The committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the city council on matters relating to relationships between the city; Braunfels, Germany; and any other "sister city" relationship approved by the city council. The committee shall advise the city council on uses and expenditures of any funding that may be available from private and/or public sources that will benefit the partnerships and relationships between the city and other cities.
- (b) The committee may adopt and amend, if necessary, bylaws for the operation and structure of the committee.
- (c) The committee may establish such subcommittees of the committee that it deems necessary and appropriate for carrying out the purposes for which the committee has

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been created. In order to further the goal of expanding community participation in the partnership city program, non-committee members may be appointed by the committee as ex-officio members of the subcommittees and the ex-officio members of the subcommittees need not be residents of the city.

(Ord. No. 2009-55, § 2, 8-10-09)

## **II.**

THAT all provisions hereof are hereby declared to be severable and if any provisions hereof is declared to be invalid or unconstitutional, such shall not invalidate or affect the remaining provisions hereof which will be and remain in full force and effect.

## **III.**

THAT it is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Ordinance should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance.

## **IV.**

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This Ordinance shall become adopted and effective upon its second reading, signature required by City Charter, and filing with the City Secretary's Office. This Ordinance must also be published in a newspaper of general circulation at least one time within ten (10) days after its final passage, as required by the City Charter of the City of New Braunfels.

PASSED AND APPROVED: First reading this the 12th day of February 2024.

PASSED AND APPROVED: Second reading this the 26th day of February 2024.

CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS

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*NEAL LINNARTZ, MAYOR*

ATTEST:

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*GAYLE WILKINSON, CITY SECRETARY*

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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*VALERIA M. ACEVEDO, CITY ATTORNEY*