



Minutes of
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021

1. Meeting was called to order at 4:02 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

A sign-in sheet was passed to those members present and was retained by the City Secretary. It will be attached to the final minutes.

3. PRESENTATIONS

175th Anniversary Update

A parade celebrating Independence Day, the 175th Anniversary of New Braunfels as well as Founders' Day and Kindermasken parades took place on July 3. There were 65 groups marching in the parade including the Conservation Society and Kindermasken. We also were lucky enough to observe what is probably a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence. Carroll (Udo) Hoffmann, chairman of the 125th Anniversary of New Braunfels in 1970, Herb Skoog, chairman of the 150th Anniversary of New Braunfels in 1995 and Anne Miller, who is serving as the chairman of the 175th Anniversary were all able to attend the parade and the festivities at the plaza.

The next activity will be a River Parade held on Landa Lake. It will be held on Saturday, September 4, which is the Labor Day weekend. More details will be announced.

There will be a large gala on the Rocking R River Rides parking lot in Gruene, Texas. This will be held on Friday, October 15 beginning at 8:00 PM. Tickets for last year's gala, which was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will be honored for this year's gala. This year's gala will have a country and western theme. There will be food stations and dancing.

The new time capsule to be opened in 50 years will be buried on the last weekend of Wurstfest. More information, including the criteria for what can be included in the time capsule will be forthcoming.

Wurstfest Update

Wurstfest is planned to be held November 5-14. There will be changes in the policy for free and paid access. There will be free access Monday through Thursday. The first Friday will not be free this year. Tickets will be \$20. On the first Sunday, November 7, and second Sunday, the 14th, tickets will be 2 for 1. On the second Sunday, entry will be free after 3:00 PM. The schedule of entertainment is being finalized

and will be announced on social media. There will not be any entertainers from Germany this year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The rebuild of the Wurstfest Halle is almost complete. The open area plaza will be bricked to look like cobblestones.

Memorial bricks in the plaza area can be purchased. The cost for citizens will be \$100 for a small brick and the larger ones will be \$250. Bricks purchased by organizations will cost \$2,500.

As part of the rebuild of Wurstfest Platz, Elizabeth Street is being rerouted to the other side of the parking lot. This will make it easier and safer for visitors to access the Fest.

Sophienburg Event

The plans for the 175th Anniversary had to be cancelled. They have decided to revive the Bürgerball (Citizens Ball) from the 1960s, possibly once a year. This year it will be held at the Chandelier of Gruene Wedding Venue in Gruene on Friday, August 27. Music will be provided by Gary P. Nunn and there will be food available. Information will be forthcoming on social media.

Sophienburg will sponsor a food booth at Wurstfest and will hold the Weihnachtsmarkt.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

David Hartmann made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting. Helgard Suhr-Hollis seconded the motion. Approval passed unanimously.

5. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

David Hartmann reported that he had spoken with Gerhard & Regina Adam in Braunfels, Germany. Gerhard is a member of the Partnership Committee of Braunfels, Germany and has been involved with our committee for many years. Gerhard reported that the situation with COVID-19 in Germany was getting worse with only 42% of the population vaccinated and the Delta-2 variant becoming more prevalent which may lead to a tighter lockdown. Travel to and from Germany will become more limited.

Gerhard also reported that those German citizens who had planned on attending the 175th Anniversary festivities in 2020 had finally received reimbursement for their travel tickets.

There were no call-ins from citizens.

6. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

The question was raised regarding the status of the tree we were going to send to Braunfels. There was no information at this time.

7. **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Status of Friendship Tree for Braunfels, Germany

Would City Council pay for a brick in the Wurstfest Plaza to commemorate this committee?

At this time, it was also noted that any items for the October meeting agenda should be submitted to the Chairman and City Secretary by the end of September. However, since the agenda is required to be published for the public 72 hours prior to the meeting, there is some leeway.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 4:00 PM.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.