



**Atlanta Sister Cities Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
March 8, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.**

Minutes

The Executive Committee of the Atlanta Sister Cities Commission met by telephone conference call. The following persons were on the call: Farrah Amir, Ember Bishop, Shelby Grubbs, Anton Mertens, David Smith and Taylor Woodruff

- I. Atlanta Sister Cities Foundation Inc.
 - a. The Atlanta Sister Cities Foundation has been incorporated
 - b. Next steps include filing necessary paperwork with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to gain tax exemption status.
 - c. Before proceeding with IRS application, we are looking into whether opening an account with the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta would achieve goals of the foundation and reduce legal costs and paperwork.
 - i. Chair Shelby Grubbs to research and report back to the Executive Committee for further discussion.
- II. Website Review
 - a. The [Atlanta Sister Cities Commission's website](#) has been launched and has been proof read by ASCC Secretary David Smith. All Commission members need to review the website for any corrections and updated.
 - b. Website has generated volunteer interests.
 - c. A total of 18 events are listed on the website. Commission members will be asked to support these events by attending and participating where needed/appropriate
 - d. Global Atlanta released an article on the website [here](#).
- III. Annual Report
 - a. Taylor Woodruff is working to compile the Atlanta Sister Cities Commission Annual Report to submit to the Atlanta City Council.
 - b. Missing Committee Reports:
 - i. Bucharest, Romania
 - ii. Cotonou, Benin
 - iii. Salcedo, Dominican Republic
- IV. Committee Updates
 - a. Please see list of committee updates here:
 - b. The City of Salzburg has advised that it never officially approved the Atlanta Sister Cities relationship and does not wish to proceed. The City Council is being informed.
 - c. Missing March Committee Updates:
 - i. Ancient Olympia, Greece
 - ii. Bucharest, Romania
 - iii. Cotonou, Benin
 - iv. Daegu, South Korea
 - v. Lagos, Nigeria
 - vi. Montego Bay, Jamaica
 - vii. Taipei City, Taiwan



**Atlanta Sister Cities Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
March 8, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.**

- viii. Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
 - ix. Ra'anana, Israel
 - x. Salcedo, Dominican Republic
 - xi. Tbilisi, Georgia
 - xii. Toulouse, France
 - 1. Committee Chairs were asked to submit reports or respond to Taylor that there were no activities to report.
 - 2. Chair and co-vice Chairs to connect with their assigned committees to discuss missing reports.
- V. Upcoming Commission Programs in the Near Term
- a. Northern Powerhouse Female Founders Trade Mission
 - i. [VIP Welcome Reception](#) – March 23, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
 - ii. Intellectual Property Session – March 24, 2017
 - b. [In the Heart of Europe: Belgium, the EU and the Transatlantic Relationship in Challenging times](#) – March 23, 2017 at 11:45 a.m.
 - c. [Atlanta-Montego Bay Sister Cities Committee Annual Gospel Brunch](#) – March 26, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.
 - d. Africa's Largest Economy: A Conversation with Ambassador Robin Renee Sanders – April 4, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. (*more information to come soon*)
 - e. [Atlanta Sister Cities Commission Meeting](#) – April 12, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.
 - f. [Dominican Glamour Fashion Show](#) – April 15, 2017
- VI. Fundraising Partnership with Sister Cities International
- a. Sister Cities International has proposed a partnership to raise funds for the Commission and the national organization. Two potential projects include:
 - i. Online crowd sourcing campaign.
 - ii. Local reception to honor 1-2 Atlantans who have significantly contributed to international activities within the City of Atlanta.
 - 1. More information to come soon.
- VII. April Meeting
- a. April meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.
 - b. Location is TBD