

Sister City Commission
2024 Annual Report

The Sister City Commission is newly formed this year. It met five (5) times this year: 7/11/24; 8/15/24; 9/19/24; 10/17/24; 11/21/24.

Attendance: George Antone 3; Brenda Bachman (Chair) 5; Delaney Daley 3; Brooke Eaton 2; Micheal Falcone (Vice-Chair) 3; Carmela Geer (Secretary) 4; Suzanna Laramée 4; Carol Turner 2; Alexa Waluk 4.

Additional Attendees: Jeannemarie Napolitano 1; Rick O'Neill 1

Activities: Organizing and establishing priorities, while concurrently planning for scheduled visits from Kinsale and Shimoda has been the challenge for our new commission.

Thus far we have:

1. Selected officers and begun formalizing our mission statement and policies
2. Begun planning for the April 2025 visit from Kinsale to celebrate the 25th anniversary of our twinning by coordinating with the Newport-Kinsale Club.
3. Begun planning for the Shimoda visit in July 2025
4. Identified several initiatives/priorities:
 - Requested membership in the Sister Cities International organization. Refer to: Sister Cities International (SCI) – Connect Globally. Thrive Locally.
 - Requested the selection of three alternate members, to be selected
 - Identified establishing a program for student exchanges in conjunction with the Newport Public Schools as a major priority
 - Requested guidance on fund raising activities to increase the available funds for the commission's programs
5. Participated in the Mayor's Monthly Meetings

Submitted by: Brenda M Bachman, Chair
December 26, 2024