



Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission Meeting

February 8, 2023

4pm via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82082165869?pwd=ejVON055elpvZVBxVzFad3pLQUl2dz09>

Meeting ID: 820 8216 5869

Passcode: 020922

MINUTES

I. Welcome and Roll

- **Present:** Commissioners Bobby Winston, Stanley Li, Leonard Berry, Margaret Lee, Ed Medina and Joseph Kong. Mayor Martinez, guest Sal Vaca and staff members Brian White, Trina Jackson-Lincoln
- **Absent:** Commissioners Alex Golovets and Jason Tran. Eric Peterson will not seek reappointment and has resigned from the commission effective 2/2/23.

II. Review and approve minutes from the January meeting.

Discussion and Outcome: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Bobby Winston and seconded by Commissioner Ed Medina. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report - **no change**

- Commission raised funds - \$2,288.71 (Per the December Statement)
- City allocated funds - \$1,000

IV. Report from Staff Liaison regarding commissioners and City Council Liaison

Discussion and Outcome: Staff Liaison Jackson-Lincoln reported that Eric Peterson resigned from the commission and Mayor Martinez is the new council liaison to the commission

V. Discuss fundraising goal of \$15k for the "Jim Matzorkis Maritime Skills Training" program grant writers.

Discussion and Outcome: Sal Vaca reported that this is a great workforce opportunity for the city and residents – development of a world class training program with focus in the maritime sector. Potential partners have grown to 18 employers, 3 counties, several unions that are willing to participate in the short-term Maritime Skills Training program. China also has such programs and he hopes to make the connection with our sister city because Zhoushan is also a maritime city.

The initiative started as a city-wide idea and has morphed into a Bay Area initiative that would train residents in marine trades and also water transportation. With the help of Commissioner Winston, he has applied for two grant applications totaling \$2m and another for \$3 million to cover the entire region. Vallejo and SF are interested in hosting the program, but Richmond should be the host of this state-wide pilot program that benefits its residents. Sal and Bobby have met with Justine Burk who is a consultant working with the city’s blue-green deal. This program is aligned with the blue-green principals and philosophy. If the first grant is awarded, it will be \$500,000 to launch the program.

The Commission should present the program to potential members at the port and raise funding for a grant writer.

- VI. Schedule meeting with the mayor to prepare for presentation to City Council by 2/15/23.
 - i. Maritime Skills Training Program
 - ii. Jim Matzorkis Memorial Freestanding Plaque near Port Admin
 - iii. Mayor’s vision for the commission

Discussion and Outcome: Mayor is in support of the initiatives and believes in the sister city program to build relationships, learn from each other and to create mutually beneficial programming. These types of relationships are paramount to understanding of different cultures abroad.

Staff Liaison reported that the proposed programs and signage recommendations should ultimately go before the City Council for approval and direction. The commission has presented the signage recommendations to the Parks and Recreation Commission who requested additional community outreach. The mayor indicated that he would sponsor an

item for the City Council. Prior to placing the item on the council agenda, the commission will move forward with outreach strategies suggested by the City Clerk.

VII. Update on creation of Giving Page by fiscal sponsor Richmond Community Foundation

Discussion and Outcome: Chair Stanley Li iterated that he is working to update the ZhoushanRichmond.org website to include all of the initiatives to help solicit donations to support programming. Staff Liaison will provide pictures and the suggested text to RCF staff for the Giving Page creation.

VIII. Other matters of interest

Commissioner Kong mentioned that he has been contacted by China about students to visit Richmond schools. He has been in communication with Eric Peterson and will provide an update to the commission. He further stated that he may visit Zhoushan to invite them to participate in an exchange. He suggested the commission could help to raise funding for stipends.

IX. Old Business

- Memorial Plaque

Discussion and Outcome: *Remove the “.” After the date. The commissioners present preferred Option 1.*

- Port Portrero Gateway Sign

Discussion and Outcome: The commissioners liked options 1 and 3 but would like to honor the choice of the family.

X. The next meeting will be held on March 8, 2023, via zoom

XI. Adjourn