

City of Portsmouth
Sister Cities Blue Ribbon Committee
Conference Room A at City Hall*
MEETING MINUTES

May 23, 2024

Councilor Rich Blalock, chair; Steve Chinosi, Ben Van Camp, Stephanie Seacord. Staff: Christine Frieese

Portsmouth High School – how does Portsmouth provide opportunities for kids to explore tech, culture to become ambassadors

- Nichinan trip in June, one day school exchange in Tokyo
- San Juan connection – two 2-way exchanges
- UN Shared Studios Portal to Agadir public school, Tanzania girls' school, Zimbabwe teacher exchange. Create another portal somewhere in the city where residents could meet/share a meal?
- Portsmouth NH 400th art, visits from Portsmouth UK, Carrickfergus

Existing global resources in City:

- Portsmouth Public Library Special Collections, Sister City archives
- Gift cases in City Hall and PHS

Update on Existing and Prospective Sister/Friendship Cities:

- Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland – trip (July?) with Sean Mahoney (Granite Minerals)
- **Nelson NZ** – Draft agreement.
- **Santarcangelo, Italy** – Tom and Jane Ferrini visit
- **Nichinan, Japan** – Portsmouth Peace Treaty 120th anniversary in 2025 may prompt visit by Mayor
- **French city?** Maison Navarre connection small city near Lyons. Next PHS trip Apr 2025

Next meeting June 27, 2024.