

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

October 1, 2024

Councilor Rich Blalock, chair; Ben Van Camp, Mary Carey, Stephanie Seacord. Excused: Steve Chinosi, Bob Sullivan. Staff: Christine Frieze

Sister Cities Week Proclamation

Draft for Mayor to read for both Santarcangelo and Nichinan visits.

Funding for SC Committee initiatives

Santarcangelo/Nichinan Visits: \$1400 for PHS catering to provide reception. SAU 52 to supply transportation. Committee has no funds for expenses. Need to build the Trust Fund for 2025.

Update on Existing and Prospective Sister/Friendship Cities:

- **Nelson NZ** – Drafting partnership agreement so they have starting point for discussion.
- **Santarcangelo, Italy** – PHS visit Oct 4-9, 17 students. Donna Garganta has offered to assist with Mayor Sacchetti visit on Oct 9.
- **Nichinan, Japan** – PHS visit Oct 11-18, 7 students. PHS Spirit Week. Welcome reception, school ceremony, gifts and City Hall visit.
- **Focus on active relationships (No. Ireland, Italy and Japan)** for now.

Public Comment: Three guests (Liza Hewitt, Roy Hesel, Petra Huda), but no speakers.