

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

September 4, 2024

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

Funding for SC Committee initiatives

Trust document drafted. Next goes to Trustees of the Trust Funds before going to Council

Update on Existing and Prospective Sister/Friendship Cities:

- **Nelson NZ** – Draft letter to Mayor noting parallels: tourism, seafood, port, culture (former English colony, declared independence and now exploring Indigenous roots). Don't use "blue ribbon" expression as it is associated with the Communist Party in NZ.
- **Santarcangelo, Italy** – PHS visit Oct 4-9, 17 students. Reception/dinner event. \$2k for transportation. Italian-American NH group. Coordinate City Hall visit and gifts with Joanna Diemer.
- **Nichinan, Japan** – PHS visit Oct 11-18, 7 students. PHS Spirit Week. Welcome reception, school ceremony, gifts and City Hall visit.