



**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

**RENE MANSHO**  
COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT I  
(808) 547-7001 OFFICE  
(808) 566-1184 FAX  
E-mail: [rmansho@gold.chem.hawaii.edu](mailto:rmansho@gold.chem.hawaii.edu)

**SISTER CITIES ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEETING**  
**COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM**  
**MAY 8, 1997**

**MINUTES**

- I. Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Lynette Char at 3:05 p.m.**
- II. ATTENDANCE**
  - A. Committee Members:**
    - .Councilmember Rene Mansho, Co-Chair**
    - .Lynette Char, Mayor's Office, Co-Chair**
    - .Kenneth Chong, Chinese Chamber of Commerce**
    - .Majill Hind, Australian Consulate-General**
    - .Paul Rebob, Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii**
    - .Wesley Fong, Chinese Chamber of Commerce**
    - .Mieko Otsuka, Circle Rainbow Air**
  - B. Others in Attendance:**
    - .Cookie Harris, staff of Councilmember Rene Mansho**
    - .Joyce Oliveira, staff of Councilmember Donna Mercado Kim**
    - .Rich Nono, staff of Councilmember Mufi Hannemann**
    - .Mark Winer, staff of Councilmember Andy Mirikitani**
- III. Minutes of April 3, 1997, was accepted as written.**
- IV. Final Approval of Recommendations for Revisions to Current Criteria and Form to Proposed Sister City**

It was moved and seconded to approve the amendments for the final approval of the recommendations for revisions to the current criteria which included the forms to proposed sister cities applications in its final form.

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**V. Committee Reports**

**The first sister city application, Zhongshan City, was circulated to task force members. After reviewing Zhongshan City's application, the task force members moved and seconded to accept the application.**

**Discussion followed. Lynette Char, Co-Chair, commended Kenneth Chong for his diligent work in putting together the sister city application for Zhongshan City.**

**Kenneth Chong, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, said it was a three-month collaborative effort by the local ad hoc committee, chaired by Ronald Young, past president of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and with Ms. Gao Yin Jiao, Deputy Director of the Foreign Affairs Office of Zhongshan City and the Zhongshan People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. Most problematic issue is the communication between our English and Chinese languages. The Chinese did not understand "sister city relationship". After corresponding in Chinese with efforts in establishing a "sister city relationship", the Chinese accepted and completed the application form.**

**The local ad hoc committee will be kept intact to assist in "galvanizing" community action with Zhongshan City. The ad hoc committee can establish the right lines of contact and communication. Presentation of sister city relationship with Honolulu and Zhongshan will be heard at the 22nd Plenary Session of the 10th Zhongshan People's Congress Committee.**

**The Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the United Chinese Society are the lead organizations who can assist with providing information and evaluation for Zhongshan City. The two organizations will become the liaison between Zhongshan City and Honolulu.**

**Currently no one knows how many Hawaiian companies are doing business in Zhongshan nor how many Zhongshan businesses are in Hawaii. Further research and data will be done at a later time.**

**The association of Hawaii with the Chinese of Zhongshan origin includes: the parents of former Senator Hiram Fong, the grandfather to Leigh Wai Doo, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen studied here, Young Sen Yet was born in Hawaii and later became the "founder of Chinese aviation", and Young Kwong Tat, a Hawaii merchant who returned to China and became a magistrate of Zhongshan District.**

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**A delegation from Zhongshan will be visiting Honolulu sometime in August or September. The visit will help cement relationships with both cities. Mayor Jeremy Harris of Honolulu will be also be visiting Zhongshan sometime in October or November. It was suggested that the Zhongshan delegation should visit when the Council is in session to be formally introduced. The Honolulu City Council meets on August 6, 1997, at Kapolei and September 24, 1997, at City Hall.**

**Lynette Char also mentioned that during the initial application process, she received a letter from Consul General Fung in Los Angeles who gave his support for the sister-city relationship. Also an email was received from Director General Kwai Wang (?) from California supporting the same.**

**A video, magazine and brochure on Zhongshan is available to members of the task force for review.**

**A resolution will be drafted and forwarded to the Economic Development, Planning and Tourism (EDPT) for placement on the June 4, 1997, committee meeting. After approval in the EDPT committee, the resolution will be forwarded for final approval before the full Council on June 18, 1997.**

**On June 18, 1997, at the Council meeting, a presentation of an Honorary Certificate will be given to Hiroshima for their Sister-State relationship with Hawaii. This is an opportune time to tie-in with Zhongshan as our new Sister-City.**

**The possibility of videotaping the committee and Council meetings for viewing at Zhongshang was discussed.**

**A request for an honorary certificate from the City Council to Zhongshan City would be appreciated. A proclamation from the Mayor's office is also requested. B o t h presentations of certificate and proclamation will be given an at official meeting with the Mayor and city officials in Zhongshan. Wesley Fong suggests that both documents be given to him three weeks prior to his departure on June 21, 1997, in order that the English text can be transcribed into Chinese. The Chinese officials would greatly appreciate such an honor because the documents will be in their language.**

**It was moved and seconded to approve the Zhongshan application.**

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**As an official gift to Zhongshan, a request will be submitted to the Council Chair John DeSoto for a koa poi pounder with official City seal to be presented to Zhongshan.**

**The 1997 Narcissus Queen Court will be visiting Kaohsiung City, Taiwan, as a courtesy because the queen comes from the city. To help continue relationship with our sister city by strengthen our aloha spirit with the city, it would be appropriate to present an official letter of greeting to Kaohsiung County from the City and County of Honolulu.**

**Kenneth Chong advised the task force members that this will be his last meeting as a member. He wanted to accomplish his task of formulating and completing the Zhongshan application and to see it move forward. With the acceptance and approval from the task force, he feels his accomplishment is successful and complete.**

**Co-Chairs, Lynette Char and Rene Mansho thanked him for his perseverance and especially, for his assistance in putting together the sister city application form. However, the task force would still like to count on him for his continued active participation.**

**There has been no communication on updates of sister-city applications. The task force members will contact Charles Crumpton on Dong Nai, Vietnam; Jerry Chang for Taitung; and to get Consul General of Thailand's name for Phuket.**

**VI. Announcements**

**Next scheduled meeting is June 12, 1997, Thursday, at 3:00 p.m. in Council Committee Room.**

**VII. Adjournment**

**The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.**