



Rene Mansho, Chair  
Mufi Hannemann, Vice-Chair  
John Henry Felix, Member  
Andy Mirikitani, Member  
Jon Yoshimura, Member

**N O T I C E**

THERE SHALL BE A MEETING OF THE  
SISTER CITY ADVISORY TASK FORCE

DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1996  
TIME: 3:00 P.M.  
PLACE: MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM  
HONOLULU HALE, THIRD FLOOR  
CHAIR: COUNCILMEMBER RENE MANSHO

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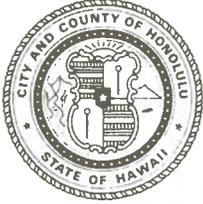
**AGENDA**

1. Approval of September 17, 1996 Minutes
2. Membership to National Organization
3. Committee Reports:
  - a. Policy/Intergovernmental
  - b. Economic Development
  - c. Cultural
4. New Business
  - a. Dalian Visit
  - b. Baguio Trade Mission

If you have any questions or comments, contact the IGR Committee via its e-mail address at: [igr@gold.chem.hawaii.edu](mailto:igr@gold.chem.hawaii.edu).

Note: The public is invited to attend this task force meeting for information. Oral testimony will not be accepted.

\* \* \* \* \*  
Any disabled person requiring special assistance should  
contact the City Clerk's Office, 527-5265, for details.  
\* \* \* \* \*



**CITY COUNCIL**  
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**SISTER CITIES ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEETING  
MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM  
OCTOBER 15, 1996  
MINUTES**

I. Meeting was **called to order** at 3:05 p.m. by Councilmember Rene Mansho

II. **ATTENDANCE:**

A. Committee Members:

Rene Mansho, Councilmember (Co-Chair)  
Lynette Char, Mayor's Office (Co-Chair)  
Councilmember Mufi Hanneman  
Councilmember John Henry Felix  
Wes Fong, Chinese Chamber  
Omar Rivera, Hispanic Chamber  
Bill Brophy, Hispanic Chamber  
Mieko Otsuka, Circle Rainbow Air  
William Lin, Junior Chamber  
Richard Bahar, DBEDT  
Kimo Keawe, Aloha Festivals

B. Others in Attendance:

Michelle Kidani, Councilmember Mansho Staff  
Rich Nono, Councilmember Hanneman Staff  
Mike Hagerdorn

III. **Approval of Minutes** of September 17, 1996. No objections to minutes.

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Sister Cities International (SCI)

1. Lynette Char distributed forms she received from SCI. They have a form with information similar to what we discussed. We need to look at this and see if this is the appropriate format to adopt. If there are any recommendations to add or delete to this form, please present them to us before the next meeting.
2. There are a lot of benefits from being in SCI, including use of their trade name, attending conferences and meeting other cities in SCI. As you can see from their forms, they have already developed something we discussed at last meeting.

3. We do not have to follow their guidelines point by point but are able to modify it to our benefit.
4. We were members before but not due paying members--SCI was not strict about paying dues before.
5. A request was made by Councilmember Felix for a copy of their annual audit statement and Articles of Incorporation before the next meeting. Also a listing of other municipalities which participate in SCI.
6. Sister Cities programs worked in other cities because private businesses run them and sell membership into the program. Phoenix has such a program.

## V. Committee Reports

### A. POLICY: (General Wolff out of town)

1. One general recommendation was made and agreed upon by this committee was that more emphasis should be placed on economic development opportunities with the participating sister city.
2. In the interest of time, we will have a special meeting of the Policy Committee to entertain revisions to the current guidelines by which sister cities are selected. We can then bring it before the general task force meeting in November to vote on the changes. **This meeting is scheduled for October 29, 3 pm.**
3. Richard Bahar noted that there were not much information on the form related to economic development. Councilmember Mansho asked him and any others who are interested to attend a special meeting on October 29th to revise form and other policies.
4. Councilmember Hanneman inquired as to the status of the pending requests for sister city relationships. Councilmember Mansho responded that we have not moved forward with any Resolutions for additional sister cities because see a need to revise the criteria. Once that criteria has been revised and agreed upon, an application form will be sent to the proposed sister city.
5. Councilmember Hanneman stated that our revised policy should be real clear so we do not select sister cities which do not meet our needs. Further, we need to ask ethnic chambers about customs (this should be made part of the grid) as it is embarrassing that when you go to these countries, we are hosted so well, yet we cannot reciprocate when they visit us.
6. Lynette Char feels once we revise our criteria, we should be in the drivers seat and solicit the sister cities we want. E.g. Indonesia, Australia

7. Wes Fong asked if we plan to solicit approval from ethnic chambers before we proceed with a sister city relationship? Councilmember Hanneman feels ethnic chambers should be advisory like neighborhood boards and the Council still makes the final decision via adoption of a Resolution.
8. We also need to look at the maximum number of cities allowed. E.G. the Philippines already have four sister cities, yet we have a request from Mike Hagedorn who has lived here 40 years whose brother is Mayor of Puerto Princesa, Philippines.

B. Economic Development Committee (Paul Rebob unable to attend)

1. Omar handed out contact names from their chamber in response to request that the chambers give us information on their sister chamber relationships. Manuel Mirabal is coming to Hawaii in January with Senator Akaka. We should consider a reception for him.
2. Omar said they are also trying to bring the National Hispanic Convention to Hawaii in September 2001 (about 3500 people).
3. Wes Fong indicated the Chinese Chamber does not have any sister chamber relationships although they have close ties with many of them.
4. Corporations will get involved with receptions and trade missions if there are economic development opportunities
5. William Lin noted that the Junior Chamber is holding a National Conference in November 1997 in Hawaii with 3000 people expected to attend. (An idea was initiated to consider inviting all the sister city JC's too.)

C. Cultural Committee:

1. Mieko will represent this task force at meetings related to the Japan-American Conference of Mayors and Chamber of Commerce Presidents.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Visit by Vice Mayor of Dalian, China

1. Councilmember Mansho had lunch with the Vice Mayor of Dalian and his delegation. Dr. Naya and Richard Bahar of DBEDT also attended and I learned that there is a process to go through for approvals before trade can take place.
2. They want us to visit in April and bring a trade mission. We need to discuss how we can put together a state/county/private delegation and get policy as to how to justify a trade mission.

3. Wes Fong suggested we bring them to Hawaii and provide a seminar to them so we can bring dollar here.
4. Richard indicated that at DBEDT, most missions are on a project by project basis.
5. Lynette pointed out that we have many visiting dignitaries and the City cannot bear the costs of hosting receptions so we must depend on the private organizations to do this. Wes Fong felt this is why it is important to get the blessing of the ethnic chambers.

B. Dormant Sister City Relationships

1. What do we do with sister city relationships that are dormant or do not qualify? E.g. Hainan is now a province not a city.
2. The original policy sets out criteria in keeping a sister city relationship, however it may be difficult to sever a relationship. Once we establish our grid, we can send it to those cities we already have and want to continue a relationship with.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Next meeting is scheduled for **November 12th, 2:00 p.m.** in the Mayor's Conference Room
2. On December 6th, DBEDT will be signing a sister/province agreement with the Government of Cebu.

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.