

## Charlottesville Sister Cities Commission

Meeting - January 3, 2024 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Large Conference Room - CitySpace, Charlottesville, VA 22903

1. Chairman - Call to order, acknowledgement of quorum present
2. Minutes submitted for approval – *deferred to February CSCC meeting*
3. Chairman's Update:
  - a. New Commissioner introduction
  - b. State Sister City Conference - April 2023
  - c. Miscellaneous Expense Approvals
  - d. Meeting Calendar - 2024
4. Communications Update
5. City Updates:
  - a. Huehuetenango - No update
  - b. Besancon - Visit by delegation, April 12 - 17, 2024; Update on Sender Grant Award
  - c. Winneba - No update
  - d. Poggio -
6. Committee / Officer Updates:
  - a. Finance -
  - b. Grants - Update on Besancon Grant funding
  - c. Education - The CHS Student Exchange in February 2023 / Expense Approval
  - d. Programs and Events - 2024 Calendar
7. New Business: Comments and questions / Ex-officio commentary
8. Adjournment

Note: Next CSCC Meeting, February 6, 2023

**Charlottesville Sister Cities Commission**  
**Besançon Rep Report**  
**December 2023**

- Besançon Committee Meeting

On December 14, I held a virtual Besançon Committee meeting with a primary focus on beginning plans for an anticipated small delegation visit from three Besançon officials in April 2024. Committee members agreed to follow up on various action items and dates for subsequent meetings were proposed. I agreed to draft a preliminary draft Itinerary for the visit, which I will circulate to the committee members prior to our next planned Committee meeting on the 18th of January.

- Update on April 2024 Delegation Visit

A letter from the CSCC, signed by Chair Edward Herring and myself, was sent to Mayor Vignot, acknowledging our readiness to host the delegation visitors over the proposed dates of April 12-18. As of this writing, we have not received confirmation, however the visit is expected to receive official approval by Mayor Vignot and the Besançon Municipal Council. In consultation with Florent Werguet and with the Besancon Committee, we will develop an itinerary of activities and events for the delegation visit and will prepare a budget proposal to bring to the CSCC for consideration at the February meeting.

- Update on Daniel Sender's "Les Amities Musicales" Grant project

On December 14, I was invited to attend a zoom meeting with Daniel Sender, Florent Werguet, and *Mathieu Guilain*, Artistic Director of the Amuso School of Music in Besançon. The Amuso School has agreed to be the partner school for Daniel's Master Classes during his Besançon visit schedule for May 5-9, 2024. Daniel, Florent, and Mathieu will continue to meet to coordinate details. At this meeting, Florent also confirmed that the Kursaal performance space has been booked on the evening of May 6 for Daniel's free concert in Besançon. Also as part of his grant-funded project, Daniel will be giving a free public concert in Charlottesville on Sunday, April 14, at 3 pm in Gresham Hall, St. Anne's-Belfield. This date was chosen deliberately to coincide with the Besançon delegation visit, and will offer the local community an opportunity to hear the pieces he will be performing in Besançon in May.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Smiley, Besancon Rep  
12/27/23