

**MINUTES OF THE SISTER CITIES PROGRAM COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
REGULAR MEETING - DECEMBER 10, 2025**

12/10/2025 - Sister Cities Program Committee Minutes

1. Declaration Of A Quorum

Meeting was called to order at 11:30 am

2. Roll Call

**Present; Chair Cappadona, Vice Chair Tregre, CM Donlon, CM P. Williams,
CM Adams, Ex-Officio Council Member Lewis**

Absent: CM Patricia Bolton-Legg and CM Donna Williams

3. Consider Approval Of Meeting Minutes

3.a Draft Minutes - October 14, 2025

Motion by Vice-Chair Tregre to approve the Minutes of 10/14/25

Second by CM Adams

Motion carried by those present

4. Public Comment

N/A

5. Ex-Officio Sharon Lewis Report

Ex-Officio Council Member Lewis stated that she wanted to thank the Committee for a great, great, wonderful event and that it was so lovely and thanked everyone for not giving up because it turned out so nice.

6. Asst. City Secretary Update

Assistant City Secretary Nellie told the Committee that the feedback she received on this event was phenomenal. Ms. Nellie thanked the Committee Members and all of the Volunteers that helped bring this event together. She went on to say that our Mayor was so impressed by such a beautiful event. On that note, Ms. Nellie also told the Committee that everyone got paid, and she is now closing the financial part of this event.

7. Update on Sister Cities

7.a Niigata

Vice Chair Tregre spoke on the Kites that were torn down after

the event. She stated that the museum was heartbroken over the incident since the Kites were 50 years old. She said that she is in contact with Niigata to see if they can be fixed. She also thanked everyone for stepping up making this event great. Chair Cappadona said that we are moving forward now with our other Sister Cities. Chair Cappadona asked the Committee Members for a review/list of the good and bad of the event for the next meeting. At this time CM Patricia Bolton-Legg phoned into the meeting. CM Adams spoke on the Sister Cities Plaza and how dirty it was and how embarrassing it was for us to end up having our ceremony in the Dollar General Parking Lot. Chair Cappadona spoke up and said that issue has been taken care of with Moody Gardens. Moody Gardens are the ones responsible for the upkeep of that property. CM Bolton-Legg stated that her concern is about the Kites. She stated that the replacement of the Kites are about around \$2000 and she felt that we should file a police report on this situation. Ex-Officio stated that she does not agree on filing a police report. Ex-Officio Lewis stated she has already spoken to Barbara Sanderson, the Director of Parks and Recreation about this incident.

7.b Macharaviaya

CM Donlon stated that she got a text message from Katie (Asst. to the Mayor) and she said that they have some artwork down in El Paso and they are willing to sell 3 pieces for \$1,500. The artwork at the moment is in Spain. CM Donlon didn't know if that is something the Committee would be interested in. CM Donlon also stated that Katie also suggested if maybe a local artist from Galveston would like to do an exhibition there and that they would host them as far as hotel, food, and they would also pick him/her from the Airport in Malaga.

7.c Stavanger

CM Adams stated that she emailed out to say hello to our people here and to let her know about any more Norwegians coming because Stavanger told her that more people were coming because they are going to do a huge project in Houston and these people are moving to Houston at least for a few years and it would be nice to have the Sister City involved with that. Volunteer Jack stated that he knows that the MaritimeAcademy is trying to take it's training-ship to Stavanger in 2028 or 2029.

7.d Veracruz

N/A

8. Additional Input from the Committee, Staff, and Guests

Chair Cappadona addressed the attendance with Ms. Martha with the Committee. Ms. Martha explained the 75% attendance

rule along with an Ordinance that states this for every committee. Chair Cappadona announced that CM Donna Williams resigned from the Committee and stated that we now have an opening on the Committee.

9. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Next meeting scheduled is on January 13, 2026 at 11:30 am

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:32 am

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Manuela 'Nellie' De La Fuente". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Manuela" and the nickname "'Nellie'" clearly visible, followed by the last name "De La Fuente".

Manuela "Nellie" De La Fuente
Assistant City Secretary
January 13, 2026