Sister Cities Commission 2024 Annual Report

2024 Accomplishments

- The Sister Cities Commission worked with the Sister Cities Foundation to define and delineate the roles and responsibilities of each organization.
- The Commission designated specific members to lead efforts to reconnect and discuss initiatives with representatives of Cancun and Nitra.
- Commission members re-established the relationship with the Naperville Public Library promoting Sister Cities and Hispanic Heritage Month with a children's craft.
- Initial connections have been made with the Downtown Naperville Alliance, Naperville Development Partnership and the Chamber of Commerce regarding future opportunities.
- The Commission completed a refresher of FOIA and Open Meetings Act compliance.

2024 Challenges

- Efforts to clearly define roles and responsibilities between the Commission and Foundation were challenging given their closely linked missions.
- The Commission had four vacancies to fill in 2024 (two vacant seats and two expiring terms).
- Finding the appropriate people to connect with in Nitra and Cancun is challenging and will continue to take time and effort.

2025 Upcoming Work

- Strengthen relationships with representatives of Cancun and Nitra.
- Further identify opportunities across trade, education, arts and culture with Nitra and Cancun.
- Leverage and partner with local organizations (Library, School Districts, Cultural Art groups, Naperville Development Partnership (NDP), Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Naperville Alliance (DNA), churches, businesses) to create these opportunities.
- Work with the Sister Cities Foundation to identify funding for these initiatives.
- Identify contacts in Pátzcuaro and evaluate partnership opportunities.