

At this time, Councillor Vellucci stated he had strong reservations over the interest of the people of Cambridge in establishing a Sister-City program with Russia. He particularly questioned the advisability of conducting any fund-raising activities to send a delegation of people to Russia. He stated that it has never been done before and that strong Sister-City relationships currently exist with Japan, Italy and Portugal. He further suggested that the City Council could establish by ordinance a permanent "Sister-City Commission" which would be appointed by the Mayor and serve as a coordinating committee with Sister-City International.

Relative to a Sister-City with Cambridge, England, Mr. Boyle stated he had been informed that it had not been formalized as of yet. Regarding Ireland, he further stated no response has been received from Dublin, but the Mayor's Office was continuing to pursue the idea with other cities in Ireland.

Mr. Boyle submitted for review by the Committee a letter which will be sent to the business community in an effort to establish a working committee to assist the Cambridge/Yatabe Sister-City program.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alfred E. Vellucci".

Councillor Alfred E. Vellucci
Chairman

City of Cambridge

In City Council..... February 4, 1985

The Sister Cities Committee held a meeting on Friday, January 18, 1985 at 10:30 a.m. in the Mayor's Office, for the purpose of receiving status reports on projects currently pending, relative to the Yatabe, Japan; Ireland; England and the Soviet Union.

The Committee heard from Jeb Brugmann, Director of the Nuclear Disarmament Committee, who stated the arrangements to be made in establishing a Sister-City with Russia will be different than other Sister-Cities, due to the additional approvals required by the U.S.S.R. He stated that in addition to the formal application through Sister-City International, additional o.k.'s from Russia need to be received. He stated that his Commission has already made informal contact. He further stated he would suggest that the Mayor put together a delegation of local people who would travel to Russia in order to fully explore a Sister-City relationship.

Both Vice-Mayor Duehay and Councillor Vellucci expressed concern over establishing such a delegation, because of the cost and precedent involved. They stated that the City could not bear such a cost. Vice-Mayor Duehay further stated that a large and strongly committed committee would be needed to put together this Sister-City relationship. Mr. Brugmann stated that he already has a list of about fifty interested people. Mayor Russell stated that any such committee should be coordinated through the Mayor's Office.

Mayor Russell questioned whether or not any interest has been expressed by the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. David Hughes, Vice-President of the Chamber, responded by stating that although they have not explored such a relationship yet, they would be willing to get involved and possibly put something together such as a trade mission.

In terms of establishing a formal committee, Gerald Boyle, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, stated he has long been in contact with Mayor Flynn's Office in Boston and has been informed that Boston has a corporation which manages the entire Sister-City program.

Vice-Mayor Duehay requested that Mr. Brugmann put together a plan which would outline the activities which the committee would want to conduct, such as budget objectives, financing strategy, recruitment, etc.

REPORT S-710**Committee on Sister Cities**

Re: status reports on projects currently pending in Japan, Ireland, England and the Soviet Union.

In City Council,

February 4, 1985

2/4/1985

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