

Alexandria Sister Cities Committee – April 2026 Meeting Minutes

Location: Lloyd House

Date: Monday, April 27, 2026

Time: 7:01 – 8:33

PM

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

2. Attendance

Present: Dale Medearis, Whitney Umarov, Katelyn Bellus, Eric Compton, Carter Rice, Paul Anderson, David Anderson, Alina Launchbaugh, David Mitchell, Lauren Smith, Alejandro (Alex) Perez-Reyes, Kate McMahon, Elisabeth Poppen, Phil Dawit, Vanessa Simpson

Absent: Mikke Norton

Excused: None

Guest: Pat Shershel

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

March 2026 minutes approved.

- Motion: Eric Compton
 - Second: David Mitchell
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4. Treasurer's Report

- Current balance: \$8,441 (excluding Whisky Tasting revenue)
 - Event expenses are processed through Whitney/City
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5. Subcommittee Updates

Alexandria 250th – Fourth of July (Eric / David M.)

- June 18 (6–10 PM) at Lyceum: Revolution-themed concert (Scottish/French/Swedish music)
- Tall Ships: June 12–14

- OHA Tours to be promoted (Vanessa)
- Event table staffing: Elisabeth and Paul
- Fees will be waived
- Further discussion scheduled for May meeting

Dundee Trip

- Eric and David attending

Strategy Subcommittee (Dale)

- Climate webinar rescheduled to May 27 at 9 AM
- May webinar in progress
- Motion approved for Eric to sign/send letter
 - Motion: Eric Compton
 - Second: Alina Launchbaugh

Social Media (Vanessa)

- Whisky tasting promotion underway
- Broader strategy to be discussed at a future meeting

Gyumri Update (Alex)

- No updates

Sports (Alex)

- Haiti vs. Scotland watch party: June 13 at 9 PM
- Alex to distribute details via email

6. Events

Swedish Programming

- Potential event dates: Oct 25, Nov 8, Nov 15
- Baker and venues available
- Swedish Concert: July 5 at John Carlyle Square
 - Motion: Eric Compton
 - Second: Vanessa Simpson
- SCC to provide food
- Eric to form subcommittee

NBA Event (Phil)

- Subcommittee to be formed after Whisky Tasting

Whisky Tasting (May 2, 6 PM)

- Complimentary attendees include:
 - Councilman Chapman (+1)
 - Councilman Aguirre (+1)
 - John Hunter
 - Tamar Arakelyan (+1)
- Vanessa to contact Swedish Chamber of Commerce

Raffle Items:

- Cigars (5-pack)
- Mount Vernon family pass
- Josephine's \$250 gift card
- O'Connell's \$100 gift cards
- Wine basket (~\$125)
 - Kate to procure or coordinate with Wine Gallery
 - Motion: Eric Compton
 - Second: David Anderson

Logistics:

- Item drop-off by 5 PM
 - Eric to circulate volunteer sign-up sheet
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7. New Business

- International Night at Mount Vernon Community School
 - May 15, 5:00–6:30 PM
 - Lauren coordinating SCC table
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8. Reminders

- All communications must go through the Office of Communication
 - Notify Eric for excused absences
 - Meetings will be held at Lloyd House (City Hall no longer available)
 - Recurring meetings scheduled for the 4th Monday of each month
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9. Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 PM (Lloyd House)

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM

KEB
Secretary
27 April 2026