



# Rochester Hills Minutes - Draft

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## Sister City Committee/Rochester

*Rochester Hills: David Blair, Theresa Mungoli, and Mark Skelcy  
Rochester: Jessica Clauser Debbie Jones, and Marilyn Trent  
Youth Representative: Eliza Pizzuti*

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Tuesday, April 14, 2026

5:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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### CALL TO ORDER

*Member Mungoli called the Sister City Committee/Rochester Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.*

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 6 - Debbie Jones, Marilyn Trent, David Blair, Theresa Mungoli, Mark Skelcy and Jessica Clauser

### OTHERS PRESENT:

*Maggie Bobitz, President of the Rochester Area Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Eliza Pizzuti, Rochester Hills Government Youth Council Representative  
Lauren Anderson, Recreation Coordinator, Rochester Area Recreational Authority  
David Word, Executive Recreation Director, Rochester Area Recreational Authority*

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**A motion was made by Jones, seconded by Blair, that the Agenda be Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 6 - Jones, Trent, Blair, Mungoli, Skelcy and Clauser

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**2025-0586** Approval of Minutes - Sister City Committee/Rochester - December 9, 2025

**Attachments:** [12092025 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Blair, seconded by Trent, that this matter be Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 6 - Jones, Trent, Blair, Mungoli, Skelcy and Clauser

**Resolved**, that the Minutes of the Sister City Committee/Rochester held on December 9, 2025 be approved as presented.

**2026-0182** Approval of Minutes - Sister City Committee/Rochester - February 3, 2026

**Attachments:** [02032026 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)  
[Resolution \(Draft\).pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Blair, seconded by Trent, that this matter be Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 6 - Jones, Trent, Blair, Mungioli, Skelcy and Clauser

**Resolved**, that the Minutes of the Sister City Committee/Rochester held on February 3, 2026 be approved as presented.

## DISCUSSION

**Member Blair** requested that a separate Agenda Item for the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council Report be a part of the Committee's Regular Meeting Agenda going forward.

**Member Mungioli** responded in the affirmative.

### **Memorial Day Parade - Monday, May 25, 2026 - Stories Untold**

**Ms. Bobitz** reported that she had attended the City of Rochester Hills City Council Meeting on Monday, April 13, 2026 and had secured the City Council resolution to close Livernois and Avon for the Memorial Day Parade and that the City would coordinate with MDOT for the necessary permits and road closure documentation. She outlined the Monday, May 25, 2026 Memorial Day Parade and Events scheduled as follows:

#### *Event Schedule:*

- 9:00 a.m.: Rochester Flag Laying Ceremony
- 9:30 a.m.: Parade begins at Mount Avon Cemetery and ends at Veterans Memorial Park on Livernois and Avon
- 10:30 a.m.: Parade concludes, and the City of Rochester Hills celebration begins
- 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Hot dogs served at the Rochester Fire Department

#### *Participants and Signage:*

- Currently, there are ten participants, not including elected officials
- Participant letter sent with the line up information
- New, mini-banner-style signage with a more cost-conscious design
- Elected officials from each city will be providing their own vehicles with signage

#### *Vehicles and Route:*

- Participants travel from Mount Avon Cemetery to Castell, then to Harding and turn left onto Livernois in the north bound lane to Veterans Memorial Park at Avon and Livernois
- Elected officials are responsible for transportation during and after the Parade
- Suggested parking is at the former Rivercrest location at the northeast corner of Avon and Livernois (just north of Veteran's Memorial Pointe)

- Flags have been ordered and the sizes double checked  
- There has been difficulty locating and committing marching band/musicians; she will be reaching out to Lutheran High School Northwest and the Community Rochester Concert Band

**Ms. Bobitz** commented that if the Parade Route area comes under a severe thunderstorm warning, the event is cancelled.

It was suggested to bring umbrellas in case of inclement weather.

**Ms. Bobitz** continued that the parade participants will have reached Veterans Memorial Pointe by approximately 10:30 a.m., the City of Rochester Hills and speakers begin and should conclude by 11:30 a.m. She requested that everyone participate in the social media ramp-up, tagging and sharing to get the information out to the public. She stated that she would also forward the information to Kristi Trevarrow at the Downtown Development Authority for inclusion in the America 250 Calendar. She is also working on finalizing the Flyer once she fills in all of the informational blanks. She stated that this would be her last year organizing the Memorial Day Parade.

Stories Untold Update:

**Mr. David Word** stated that he recommends postponing the launch of this event until 2027 to ensure it gets the attention and 'true honor' it deserves, rather than being rushed alongside the 'America 250' events this year. He commented that this recommendation is supported by the fact that the two intended honorees are unavailable this year and potential honorees had not responded in time.

**Member Mungoli** suggested beginning the 'Stories Untold' promotion in November - Veteran's Day and seek family submissions for the 2027 Memorial Day Event to plan early.

The Committee Members discussed the difficulties in identifying candidates to honor as they must have died while serving but still have family members living in the area.

Discussion ensued by the Committee Members as to the future of the Memorial Day Parade due to low turnout and residents traveling over the Memorial Day weekend; the Committee Members plan to get an estimate of the 2026 attendees along the parade route as well as the attendees at the Mt. Avon and Veterans Memorial Pointe ceremonies. Ms. Bobitz stated that the Rochester Area Regional Chamber of Commerce would not be organizing the Memorial Day Parade in the future; further discussion ensued as to the possibility of moving the parade date up to the week before the actual Memorial Day date itself, or to possibly phase out the parade so that the focus could remain on the two ceremonies - Mt. Avon and Veterans Pointe as well as Stories Untold, all of which could solve issues with expense, liability and low participation/attendance. The Committee agreed to postpone any final decisions regarding the Parade's future until its August meeting.

**Mr. Word** stated that he would research other communities about their parades or if they schedule them to a different date than the actual holiday.

**Member Mungoli** commented that she would brainstorm potential organizations that might be interested in coordinating the parade if the Committee decides to continue it.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**Member Mungoli** reported that the Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. and planned to reach out to the community liaison or someone from Priority Waste to discuss Priority Waste - recycling and the status of Recyclebank, scheduling, trucks and the condition of its vehicles.

**Ms. Pizzuti** reported on the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council Cultural Fair - Saturday, April 18, 2026 from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. at Rochester Christian University. She stated that the free event had over 20 food vendors, 15 performances which included henna, face paint, tea ceremony and performances represented by over eleven different groups and cultures. She noted that the application submission process for the 2026-2027 term opened on Monday, April 20, 2026 through Friday, May 22, 2026 - 5:00 p.m.

**Member Jones** noted the Community Health and Wellness Fair she is involved with is scheduled for Monday, May 4, 2026 at Rochester High School which will include a blood drive and vaccines.

## NEXT MEETING DATE

- Tuesday, June 2, 2026 - 5:00 p.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, it was moved by **Member Trent** and seconded by **Member Jones** to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m.