



# Rochester Hills Minutes - Draft

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## Sister City Committee/Rochester

*Rochester Hills: David Blair, Theresa Mungoli and David Walker*  
*Rochester: Mark Albrecht, Doug Gould, Marilyn Trent*

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Tuesday, November 14, 2023

5:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive  
Conference Room 221

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### CALL TO ORDER

*Member Mungoli* called the Sister City Committee/Rochester meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 6 - Mark Albrecht, David Blair, Doug Gould, Theresa Mungoli, David Walker and Marilyn Trent

### Others Present:

Maggie Bobitz, President of the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**A motion was made by Albrecht, seconded by Trent, that the Agenda is Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 6 - Albrecht, Blair, Gould, Mungoli, Walker and Trent

### DISCUSSION

**2023-0525** 2024 Memorial Day Parade

*Member Mungoli* introduced Maggie Bobitz, President of the Rochester Regional Chamber ("RRC") and stated that the Committee's sole topic for the meeting is the 2024 Memorial Day Parade ('2024 Parade').

*Ms. Bobitz* stated that the RRC had put together a proposal for the upcoming 2024 Parade for the Committee to discuss. She then gave a brief history of the RRC, its board members and discussed the creation of the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester ("CFGR") as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt designation. She gave a brief history of the CFGR, the board members; the blending of members in both the RRC and the CFGR as well as and the work they do. She stated that the CFGR has experience facilitating the 2024 Parade just as the CFGR facilitates the Rochester Area Hometown Christmas Parade annually. She stated that she had prepared a proposal which includes the date and time, the change in the route and the projected expenses. She noted that reverting back to the route and schedule from years' past would result in a cost savings benefit to the organizers.

**Ms. Bobitz** gave the RRC proposal as follows:

- Road closure(s) and planned Parade route
- Time duration of the Parade
- Planting of the flag at 8:00 a.m. at Mt. Avon
- Form the Parade line up
- Walk down Harding at 9:00 a.m. to congregate at Veterans Pointe - Livernois and Avon - no later than 10:15 a.m.
- Ceremony with Mayor Barnett

She added that this eliminates the need for the excess costs of golf carts, porta potty facilities and rental of the middle school. She commented that the Marching Bands always appreciate a gratuitous contribution for their participation in the Parade. She stated her belief that Stoney Creek is next in the rotation; rotation of the Marching Bands allows each school to participate

**Member Albrecht** commented that Mayor Bikson had already agreed to bringing the Memorial Day Parade back to its original route of beginning in Rochester and concluding at Veterans Memorial Point in Rochester Hills. He continued further, that as his term serving on the City of Rochester's City Council was coming to an end, he still would like to be involved wherever he would be needed in helping with the annual Memorial Day Parade. He suggested he could 'MC' the program, if he was asked.

Discussion ensued by the Committee Members to share with the newer Committee Members as to the parade routes, scheduled times and past experiences when Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township participated in a combined Memorial Day Parade Event. The Members then discussed membership and a potential Memorial Day Parade Committee. The Members moved on to discuss the continuation of the fundraising for the Parade with sponsorship packages such as presenting sponsor(s), banner placement, marketing and branding plans, flag purchases for giveaways during the Parade, all supported by going through the CFGR and each of the municipalities participating in the Parade. The Members also discussed the possibility of giving back to the community in the form of scholarship opportunities for high school students wishing to apply to the military branches.

The Committee Members discussed the possibility of creating a parade committee and what the structure and membership would be.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**Member Mungoli** thanked Member Albrecht for all of his energy, dedication and hard work for the City of Rochester. She stated it had been a pleasure to work with him on the Sister City Committee and the Rochester Avon Recreation Authority. She asked Member Albrecht to please be sure to attend any of the future meetings as the meetings are open to the public.

**Member Albrecht** recalled years earlier before the Committee had begun meeting regularly and described the creation and exchange of ideas that not only brought the cities closer together but brought the respective community

departments closer together. He described the collaboration efforts in bringing back the Memorial Day Parade as the frosting on the cake and stated that he would remain engaged and in attendance at all of the charity and community events.

The Committee Members agreed to maintain the meetings and schedule at the City of Rochester Hills in Conference Room #130.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

- Tuesday, February 6, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

**(Member Gould had to leave for another meeting at 5:47 p.m.)**

**Present** 5 - Mark Albrecht, David Blair, Theresa Mungoli, David Walker and Marilyn Trent

**Absent** 1 - Doug Gould

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Committee, it was moved by Member Trent and seconded by Member Walker to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m.