

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 2, 2007

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE ALEXANDRIA-CAEN EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

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**ISSUE:** Consideration of an ordinance to change the name of the Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee to the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee in recognition of the full acceptance of the twinning relationship by Sister Cities International (Attachment).

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council pass the ordinance on first reading on Tuesday, May 8 and set it for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, May 12. The Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee has requested the name change.

**DISCUSSION:** In February 1989, then Mayor Moran journeyed to Caen, France to renew the sister city relationship that had been approved by the City Council on November 13, 1982. On July 7, 1990, the City hosted a three-person delegation from Caen and then Mayor Jean-Marie Girault announced the City of Caen's intent to formalize the sister city relationship between our two jurisdictions in a written agreement that outlines the scope of the exchange programs. These include economic development programs, academic/educational student and staff exchanges, arts and cultural exchanges, and professional health care program exchanges. The Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee was established in November 1990.

On October 28, 1991, the official twinning document was signed by both Mayors and the paperwork was filed with Sister Cities International - two months after Caen signed an agreement to twin with Nashville, Tennessee. Alexandria and Caen were unaware of a change in the Sister Cities International by-laws that was adopted in the summer of 1991 which prohibited European cities from twinning with two or more American cities. Therefore, the relationship between Alexandria and Caen was not officially recognized until June 2006 when this prohibition was rescinded and staff provided copies of the historical documents to Sister Cities International. After reviewing the documentation, the International organization not only provided official recognition, but acknowledged an error on their part that the Alexandria-Caen relationship should

have been official in 1991 as our twinning relationship actually predates the Nashville-Caen relationship.

The Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee voted at its April 9, 2007 meeting to request that Council change the Committee's name in recognition of the full acceptance of the twinning relationship between the two cities. I support the request to change the name to the Alexandria-Caen Sister Cities Committee.

**ATTACHMENT:** April 12, 2007 E-mail From Mark Delligatti to Rose Williams Boyd

**STAFF:** Rose Williams Boyd, Executive Secretary for Boards and Commissions



<mdelligatti@comcast.net>  
04/12/2007 01:11 PM

To <Rose.Boyd@alexandriava.gov>  
cc  
bcc  
Subject

History:  This message has been replied to.

Rose,

The Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee at is April 9, 2007, meeting passed a motion to request that the committee's name be changed to the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee, in recognition of the full acceptance of the Twinning relationship of the two cities by Sister Cities International in June of 2006.

Please let me know if we must do anything further.

Thanks,

Mark Delligatti, Chairman  
The Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee

Introduction and first reading:	5/08/2007
Public hearing:	5/12/2007
Second reading and enactment:	5/12/2007

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Title

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article S (ALEXANDRIA-CAEN EXCHANGE COMMITTEE), Chapter 4 (COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS), Title 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

Summary

The proposed ordinance changes the name of the Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee to the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee, in recognition of the full acceptance of the twinning relationship of the two cities by Sister Cities International, in June of 2006.

Sponsor

Staff

Rose Boyd, Executive Secretary for Boards and Commissions  
Ignacio B. Pessoa, City Attorney

Authority

§ 3.04(g), Alexandria City Charter

Estimated Costs of Implementation

None

Attachments in Addition to Proposed Ordinance and its Attachments (if any)

None

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article S (ALEXANDRIA-CAEN EXCHANGE COMMITTEE), Chapter 4 (COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS), Title 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Article S, Chapter 4, Title 2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same is hereby, amended and reordained to read as follows:

ARTICLE S Alexandria-Caen ~~Exchange~~ Sister City Committee

Sec. 2-4-140 Creation, composition, organization and term.

(a) The Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee, initially established on November 13, 1990, is hereby established by ordinance and designated as a standing committee known as the Alexandria-Caen ~~Exchange~~ Sister City Committee.

(b) The members of the committee shall be appointed by the City Council as follows:

- (1) sixteen citizen members; and
- (2) one member representing the Sister Cities Committee.

(c) The members of the committee shall be appointed in the manner prescribed in title 2, chapter 4, article A of this code. The members shall serve for a term of two years, and such terms shall be staggered.

Sec. 2-4-141 Functions, powers and duties; staff assistance.

(a) The functions, powers and duties of the committee shall be to advise and support the city and the city council as to:

- (1) economic development and tourism programs, academic/educational student and staff exchanges, arts and cultural program exchanges, and professional health program exchanges, between the City of Alexandria, Virginia and the City of Caen, France, and the residents thereof;
- (2) to do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the responsibilities expressly given in this subsection; and
- (3) such other tasks as may be requested by the city council.

1 (b) Except as expressly provided in this article, the committee may adopt rules and  
2 regulations in regard to procedure and other matters for the conduct of its business,  
3 so long as the same are not inconsistent with the city code, including, but not limited  
4 to, the establishment of committees through which it may carry on its functions,  
5 duties and purpose.  
6

7 (c) Subject to the availability of funds and staff, the city manager is authorized to  
8 provide such staff or other assistance to the committee as requested.  
9

10 Section 2. That no provision of this ordinance shall be deemed to affect the  
11 appointments or terms of the members of the Alexandria-Caen Exchange Committee in office on  
12 the effective date hereof.  
13

14 Section 3. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time  
15 of its final passage.  
16

17 WILLIAM D. EUILLE  
18 Mayor  
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20 Introduction: 5/08/2007  
21 First Reading: 5/08/2007  
22 Publication:  
23 Public Hearing:  
24 Second Reading:  
25 Final Passage:  
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