

Member Kay Lasman introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-173

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER, HENNEPIN COUNTY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND THE CITY OF VOINJAMA, LOFA COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

WHEREAS, a Sister City Program has existed in the United States of America since 1956 when U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower proposed a People-to-People citizen diplomacy initiative; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of a Sister City Relationship is to establish a long-term, mutually beneficial partnership between two communities; and

WHEREAS, the Vice President of Liberia, His Excellency Joseph N. Boakai, along with the Minnesota based Voinjama-Brooklyn Center Sister City Committee comprised of a broad spectrum of Liberian Community representatives led by Alexander B. Collins have requested the establishment of a Sister City Relationship with the City of Brooklyn Center; and

WHEREAS, a Sister City Relationship between the cities of Brooklyn Center and Voinjama will benefit both cities in the following ways:

1. Inclusion and Responsibility
2. Nurturing of Municipal Partnerships
3. Cultural Exchange
4. Transformational Benefits; and

WHEREAS, the potential activities envisioned by this relationship include, but are not limited to public official exchange visits, cross cultural training activities, sharing of best practices in municipal leadership, an expansion of Brooklyn Center Liberian native residents' participation in Brooklyn Center Civic/Community/Governmental activities, and mutual recognition of the relationship by the symbolic designation of a public asset in honor of this relationship; and

WHEREAS, except for staff time, no expenditure of tax dollars is expected to occur in support of carrying out specific Sister City programs or activities, but private donations to the City may be used in support of these Council-approved activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, that the City Council does hereby establish a Sister City Relationship with the City of Voinjama, Lofa County, Republic of Liberia.

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-173

December 10, 2012

Date

Tim Willson

Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharon Krutson

City Clerk

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by member  
Lin Myszkowski

and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Tim Willson, Carol Kleven, Kay Lasman, Lin Myszkowski, and Dan Ryan;  
and the following voted against the same: none;

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.