

2017 RES-475

RECONSTITUTING THE KASSEL-DANE SISTER COUNTY TASK FORCE

Eleven years ago, Dane County established a sister county relationship with Kassel, Germany. This has been a productive partnership featuring, among other things:

- A presentation by a Kassel official to Downtown Madison Inc. regarding commuter rail;
- An art show at the Dane County Regional Airport featuring Brothers Grimm art;
- The sponsorship of artists from Dane County art events held in concert with the avant garde "documenta" in 2012 and 2017
- Tours by a Dane County delegation of solar and renewable energy installations and factories in Kassel;
- A Kassel jazz trio toured Dane County and performed with local music groups
- On-going discussion of energy-based partnerships

When the partnership was first established, a task force was named to oversee the relationship. Given interest and activity pending that will take advantage of our sister county relationship, it is time to reconstitute the task force.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Board Chair shall appoint an eight-member task force, the

Kassel-Dane Sister County Task Force, to include up to 5 community members and at least 3 supervisors to oversee the Sister County partnership with Kassel, Germany. Community members could be drawn from business, agriculture, the arts, the UW-Madison German Department and other departments, and/or the Freiburg-Madison Sister City Committee. Supervisors will serve a two-year term and community members will serve a three-year term.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Kassel-Dane Sister County Task Force report annually to the Executive Committee on activities and benefits of the partnership.