

Minnisblað vegna vinabæjarmóts 2017

Fulltrúar vinabæja Hafnarfjarðar í Norrænu vinabæjarkeðjunni komu til undirbúningsfundar í Hafnarfirði dagana 25.-27. maí síðastliðinn. Vinabæjarmót eru að jafnaði haldin annað hvert ár og nú er komið að Hafnarfirði að vera gestgjafi en mótið var síðast haldið í Hafnarfirði árið 2005. Mótin samanstanda af uppákomum æskulýðs-, íþrótt og menningarhópa frá bæjunum auk ráðstefna og málþinga um hin ýmsu sameiginlegu málefni norrænu bæjanna. Ákveðið var að þema mótsins að þessu sinni verði „heilsuþæring“. Á fundinum var rætt um samstarfið í framtíðinni en vinabæirnir voru sammála um að gera breytingar á samstarfinu og straumlínulaga það að breyttum aðstæðum. Niðurstaða fundarins hefur verið dregin saman í meðfylgjandi texta:

The Twin Cities share the view that the cooperation within the Nordic circle of twin cities is important and that we will continue learning from each other through different topics chosen for each meeting. Hafnarfjörður has the pleasure of inviting a delegation from each city to the Twin city Meeting in Hafnarfjörður in 2017 where the theme will be “Healthy city”.

As part of the preparation of the Twin City meeting in 2017 delegates from Bærum, Hämeenlinna, Hafnarfjörður, Tartu and Uppsala met in Hafnarfjörður on the 26th of May 2016 and would like to suggest the following reform of the future Twin City cooperation:

- Twin City Meetings would take place **every second year**, like today.
- **Young people** will meet and cooperate for **five days** (29th of May to 2nd of June in 2017) and **official guests**, politicians and city officials, will meet and share knowledge and experience on a given topic for **three days** at the same or similar time (1st to 3rd of June in 2017).
- During evaluation in the end of each meeting the **planning of the next meeting**, in another twin city in two years, will take place and the dates and the theme for the next meeting discussed. This would probably require an extra day/time.
- The members agree on the need for some **flexibility**, for example when choosing when the twin city meetings take place. Therefore the **timing of the meetings could vary** between cities because of different times of festivals or interesting events they wish to connect the Twin City meetings to. **Other ways of communication** will be tested between meetings.
- The participants would consist of **eight young people, two youth leaders, three official guests, up to three other guests**, such as city officials, and possibly key-notes speakers.
- **Less emphasis** will be put on the young people to showcase something for the official guests.

Other traditions remain unchanged:

- Working language: English
- Travel expenses to hosting country are covered by each of the cities themselves
- Travel expenses inside the country are covered by the host
- Accommodation for the youth and 3 official guests covered by the hosting city
- Costs related to the program covered by the hosting city

Throughout the years, the NORDEN Associations in the Twin Cities have played a very important role in our collaboration, and good relationships and collaboration have been established with the NORDEN Association in the other Nordic cities. We expect this close collaboration between the NORDEN Associations of the Nordic cities to continue but not as part of the Twin City meetings.