

## RESOLUTION NO. 2005-2

### A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE OWENSVILLE COMMUNITY GERMAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP CLUB

- WHEREAS:** Owensville, Missouri has a large population of German descent and many area residents can trace their family tree to Germany.
- WHEREAS:** Many people are attempting to trace their family lineage and are from the northern part of Germany.
- WHEREAS:** Many people in northern Germany are interested in following those emigrants to America and discovering how their lives were changed.
- WHEREAS:** A large contingent of immigrants was led by Rev. August Rauschenbusch and went first to Mt. Sterling, Missouri.
- WHEREAS:** Several immigrants separated from Rev. Rauschenbusch and moved to southern Gasconade County.
- WHEREAS:** Rev. Rauschenbusch kept a detailed diary of his sojourn and sent a copy to his hometown newspaper.
- WHEREAS:** Rev. Rauschenbusch and more than seventy immigrants hail from Altena, Germany, a thriving city near Dusseldorf, Germany.
- WHEREAS:** Rev. Rauschenbusch's diary was printed in the Altena newspaper over 150 years ago and its printing was rediscovered by Heinz Linke.
- WHEREAS:** Heinz Linke traveled to America and made a presentation about his research to the Gasconade County Historical Society.
- WHEREAS:** This presentation piqued the interest of some Owensville residents and descendants of Rauschenbusch entourage wondered of more could be done to establish a relationship between Owensville, Missouri and Altena, Germany.
- WHEREAS:** Hermann and New Haven, Missouri, have partnering cities in Germany and this has been culturally beneficial to both communities.
- WHEREAS:** The City of Owensville desires to establish such a cultural exchange with

Altena and reap the cultural benefits of such a relationship.

**WHEREAS:** The newly formed Owensville Community German-American Friendship has indicated a willingness to be a conduit for the partnership with an Altena Club that has the same inclination.

**WHEREAS:** Both Altena, Germany and Owensville, Missouri are communities founded on manufacturing and agriculture as their primary source of income.

**WHEREAS:** This partnering relationship will be an educational tool for the R-II school District's students and with the residents of Altena, Germany.

**NOW: BE IT RESOLVED** that on this Nineteenth day of September, 2005, that the City of Owensville, Missouri, by virtue of the authority vested in its Board of Aldermen, **PROMULGATE, ENCOURAGE AND AUTHORIZE** the Owensville Community German-American Friendship Club to act as the **OFFICIAL** organization to establish this partnership with Altena, Germany and its residents.

***ADOPTED THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2005.***

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E. Louise Baker, Mayor

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Bridget Hengstenberg, City Clerk