

Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting

Place: CIRA Airport Conference Room

Date: April 10, 2017

Members in attendance: Steven Campbell, Sanae Ferrier, Catrina Murphy, Toyoka Nishihara, Ken Ota, Dawn Sadicoff, Kyle Silver, Darren Sampson

Members not in attendance: Akiko Wilson, Mary Ann Schierman, Cindy Hansen, Robert Harrison, Noha Shawki

Guest(s): Jeffrey Kroesch, Brenda Guest, Catherine McDonald

Meeting was called to order at 6:31p.m. by Darren.

- **Meeting Minutes:**
 1. March, 2017 minutes was presented and it was moved to accept with change of location to Airport by Kyle and seconded by Steven . It was approved unanimously.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Catrina
 1. February report with stipend for Taisei was presented and moved to approve by Steven and seconded by Kyle. It was approved unanimously.
- **Chairman's report:** Darren
 1. HUGE thank you to all who assisted with the Jr. High From Japan activities.
 2. Toyoka mentioned that the group reported Mayor Nishikawa about the trip. Meantime, Asahikawa's committee new chair-person is Ms. Madoka Ushio succeeding Mr. Kamikawa.
- **Senior High students to Asahikawa:**
 1. Nick will spend two days with 55th group before he is heading back home.
- **Senior High students from Asahikawa:** Reported by Sanae.
 1. Taisei's report to both cities needs to be arranged. His return date will be decided soon.
- **Junior Ambassadors to Asahikawa:** Reported by Toyoka
 1. Orientation went well. There will be 6 students visiting Japan this year leaving on 6/1/17.
- **Junior Ambassador from Asahikawa:**
 1. Darren thanked everybody who helped their trip.
- **Japanese Garden:** Reported by Steven
 1. Memorial tree: Town suggested the area and the kind of trees which Steven passed on to donor. Darren requested Steven to let him know when the date is fixed for planting.
 2. Weeding of the garden for this year: Steven will publish the weeding dates/times for each month.
 3. Beautification project phase-2 will start soon.
- **Long Range Planning:**
 1. Sanae suggested that some form of collaboration with other organization to exchange idea for finding host families which sometimes is a big challenge especially for long

term exchange students.

- **Publicity:**
 1. Ken would like to publish e-newsletter by the end of April reporting the trip of Junior Ambassadors from Japan. So, everyone who was involved in chaperoning is requested to provide write-ups and pictures.
- **Special Events:** N/A
- **Old Business:**
 1. 55th Trip: Toyoka
 - i) Orientation meeting is scheduled on April 23rd at Airport.
- **New Business:** N/A

At 7:52 p.m., Steven motioned and Kyle seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: May 1, 2017, Place Airport Conference Room

Respectfully submitted, Ken Ota.

