

Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting

Place: CIRA Airport Conference Room

Date: August 14, 2017

Members in attendance: Steven Campbell, Sanae Ferrier, Cindy Hansen, Robert Harrison, Catrina Murphy, Toyoka Nishihara, Ken Ota, Dawn Sadicoff, Darren Sampson, Noha Shawki, Akiko Wilson

Members not in attendance: Kyle Silver

Guest(s): Jeff Kroesch

Meeting was called to order at 6:33p.m. by Darren.

- **Meeting Minutes:**
 1. July, 2017 minutes was presented and it was moved to accept by Cindy and seconded by Sanae. It was approved unanimously.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Reported by Catrina
 1. Budget & Expense reports for FY2017 and 2018 were prepared by Catrina, and reviewed by the board. There are some items of which segment of accounts not being consistent and the review with the city was suggested. It will be reviewed at next meeting.
- **Chairman's report:**
 1. Darren will take care of new members' appointment with the cities.
 2. Regarding members' assignment for next year, Darren wants to appoint secondary person to chair of each sub-committee in order to be able to do the backup smoothly when the chair was not available for any reason. Also, it is important that everybody gets involved in one of 4 core projects (exchange programs).
 3. Darren will send "Thank You" letters to those who diligently worked to make 55th Ceremony successful. Also, thanked Toyoka for all the arrangements done for us.
- **Senior High students to Asahikawa:** Reported by Akiko
 1. Nick returned home safely. Akiko requested him to prepare report, presentation and answer survey. Nick will come to next meeting.
 2. Mitchell started his life in Asahikawa. He writes his experience in his blog. So, members are requested to read it and if possible make some comments to encourage him.
- **Senior High students from Asahikawa:** Reported by Sanae
 1. Minami arrived safely and started her life in B/N. She took ESL test yesterday. Will ask her to come to next meeting.
- **Junior Ambassadors to Asahikawa:** Reported by Toyoka
 1. Toyoka had a chance to speak with Margo Ehrlich while in trip to coordinate with Metcalf/U-High to promote JA trip, and she will hold further conversation.
- **Junior Ambassador from Asahikawa:**
 1. Toyoka was approached by Mrs. Kurusu if they should keep the number of JA mission students to 10 instead of larger numbers like 15 who came to visit this year. The board's

consensus is 15 is fine and asked Toyoka to communicate with Asahikawa accordingly.

Japanese Garden: Reported by Steven

1. Steven thanked Catrina and Akiko for watering during Steven's absence.
2. Weeding was done on 8/12 and garden looks good.
2. Town of Normal is now working to replace the board around the pond. After that Grieder will finish the phase-3 of beautification project.

- **Long Range Planning:** n/a
- **Publicity:**
 1. We will participate Labor Day parade.
- **Special Events:**
 1. Sanae will plan welcome party for Minami.
- **Old Business:** n/a
- **New Business:** n/a

At 8:23 p.m., Steven motioned and Cindy seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: September 11, 2017, Place Airport Conference Room

Respectfully submitted, Ken Ota.

