

## **Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting**

**Place:** CIRA Airport Conference Room

**Date:** March 5, 2018

**Members in attendance:** Sanae Ferrier, Cindy Hansen, Robert Harrison, Jeff Kroesch, Catrina Murphy, Toyoka Nishihara, Ken Ota, Dawn Sadicoff, Darren Sampson, Kyle Silver, Noha Shawki, Akiko Wilson

**Members not in attendance:** Steven Campbell

**Guest(s):** Brenda Guest, Sally Modine

Meeting was called to order at 6:32p.m. by Darren.

- **Meeting Minutes:**

1. Minutes for February was presented and it was moved to accept, with changes to attendees and the donation description, by Toyoka seconded by Kyle. Then it was approved unanimously.

- **Treasurer's Report:** N/A

- **Chairman's report:**

1. Subcommittees: Darren requested every member to serve at least one of 4 core subcommittees, which are Senior High To, Senior High From, Junior Ambassador To, and Junior Ambassador From. Other subcommittees are dissolved but to be assigned on a needed basis. Assignment sheet was circulated.
2. Received a grant money of \$500 from State Farm Good Neighbor Grant, which was submitted by Steve Modine. Thanks to Modines for generosity.
3. Cindy Hansen's term will end as of the last day of April. Toyoka Nishihara will resign at the end of June as she will move to Arizona. Many thanks to both of them for volunteering for many years.

- **Senior High students to Asahikawa:** Reported by Akiko

1. Mitchell: He is doing well. His family is visiting Asahikawa in March. Akiko asked members to submit request to her if there was anything wanted to hear from Mitchell.
2. 2018-19 Asia: She is working hard on Japanese and the progress is very good. She wants to join Band and Track Team.

- **Senior High students from Asahikawa:** Reported by Sanae

1. Minami is doing well with school and with host family. Sanae asked members to take her out for dinner or weekend to give some break for the host family.
2. 2018-19: Waiting application from Asahikawa for new student who is 16 years old and a female. Need host family.

- **Junior Ambassadors to Asahikawa:** Toyoka reported

1. 10 students are going this year (6/1-6/17). Toyoka and Darren will accompany them as chaperons. Next orientation meeting is scheduled on March 11.

- **Junior Ambassador from Asahikawa:** Reported by Cindy and Brenda

1. Schedule is set and circulated to the members with assignment sheet.

2. Plan to hold meeting with host families on March 11, following Junior To meeting.
- **Special Events:** Reported by Toyoka
    1. Madoka Ushio's visit: She arrives on March 25<sup>th</sup> separately from JA group. Darren will take care of all meetings she is attending. Lunch is scheduled on the 26<sup>th</sup> with Darren, Dawn and Ken. She will leave on the 28<sup>th</sup> from Bloomington.
  - **Japanese Garden:** N/A
  - **Long Range Planning:** N/A
  - **Publicity:**
    1. St Patrick Day Parade in Normal: Plan to attend subject to availability of the vehicle which is not clear as of this date.
    2. Ken attended Bloomington Rotary Club last week and made presentation to the club, asking help for finding host families.
  - **Old Business:** n/a
  - **New Business:** n/a

At 7:40 p.m., Kyle motioned and Jeff seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting: April 9, 2018** at Airport Conference Room

Respectfully submitted, Ken Ota.

