

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

**Place:** CIRA Airport Conference Room

**Date:** August 5, 2019

**Members in attendance:** Ryan Apple, Jeff Kroesch, Sally Modine, Darren Sampson, Laura Tepen, Akiko Wilson, Dawn McBride, Patrick Clapper

**Excused Absence:** Ken Ota, Kyle Silver, Steven Campbell, Noha Shawki

**Absent without notice:** Brenda Guest

**Guest(s):** Jaron Huffman, Katherine Scheck, Asia Q-C and family, Anthony D. and family, Mrs. Kroesch

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

Special Guests:

2018-2019 Exchange Student Presentation (Asia)- PowerPoint presentation to the committee

2019-2020 Exchange Student pre-departure comments to the committee

• Meeting Minutes:

1. Minutes for July was presented, and it was moved to accept by {Patrick} seconded by {Ryan}, and it was approved unanimously.

• **Treasurer's Report:** by Dawn. \$7,375.51 in expenses. \$737.29 received. All checks issued by City of Bloomington must be approved by the City Council. Best time to submit expenses for checks is prior to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. The motion to approve June report was made by {Jeff} seconded by {Sally} and unanimously approved by the board.

• **Chairman's report:**

1. Expectations from members on a volunteer committee (attend, assist, communicate)
2. Focus currently is to secure 2 additional families
3. Extending application form links to Jaron and Katherine

• **High School students to Asahikawa:** Reported by Akiko

1. Aisa's survey was very thorough and a good read. Would like to send to anyone who is interested in reading. Also sent the information to the Japan Committee
2. Anthony has continued to work hard with Japanese Language. He is motivated to study himself. He is leaving on Aug. 12 at 6:31 am from Peoria. Suggested arrival at Peoria is 5 am.
3. Welcome Home/Farewell Party took place at LCC 28<sup>th</sup> of July. Thanks to Ken for coordination and for members who were able to attend.
4. Recruiting for 2020-2021 HS student will begin in 30 days

• **High School students from Asahikawa:** Reported by Ryan

1. Himeno Yamazaki: Still looking for host family. Pet allergy exists. Found a potential Junior High school student who is interested in hosting. Need to confirm registration for Himeno at BHS and principal at BHS need host family address. Sister Cities International needs the paperwork on the family. ACES is processing the forms.

2. Continue to approach families in District 87 so we can make the transition to next family smooth. Jeff will continue to approach families of D87 at the open houses.

• **Junior Ambassadors to Asahikawa:** Reported by Jeff

1. Advance money from Jr. Ambassador trip returned and recorded to budget.
2. Next recruiting meeting will be in November
3. Looking to get into Unit 5 Jr. High schools for recruiting, too.

• **Junior Ambassadors from Asahikawa:** N/A

• **Special Events:**

1. We will participate in the Labor Day Parade on Sept. 2 (Mon) 10 a.m. – Darren securing car at candy.

• **Japanese Garden:** Thanks to those who weeded on July 12.. Next weed day is Aug 12 from 12:30 – 2 pm. Bring sun screen and water.

• **Long Range Planning:** N/A

• **Publicity:** FB barrage for host families

• **Old Business:** Re-focus on updating the web site.

• **New Business:** N/A

At 8 p.m., {Darren} motioned, and {Jeff} seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting: September 9, 2019 6:30 pm** at Airport Conference Room  
Respectfully submitted, {Darren Sampson}.