

Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting

Place: CIRA Airport Conference Room

Date: October 7, 2019

Members in attendance: Ryan Apple, Steven Campbell, Patrick Clapper,
Jeff Kroesch, Dawn McBride, Sally Modine, Darren Sampson, Ken Ota, Noha Shawki,
Laura Tepen, Akiko Wilson

Excused Absence: Kyle Silver

Absent without notice: Brenda Guest

Guest(s): Katherine Scheck, Jaron Huffman, Chiko Tsukamoto

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

- **Meeting Minutes:**

1. Minutes for September was presented. As there was no change needed Patrick moved to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Jeff, and it was approved unanimously.

- **Treasurer's Report:** by Dawn

1. September expense was nothing unusual. The motion to approve June report was made by Ryan seconded by Sally and unanimously approved by the board.
2. Budget for 2020 and 5 years Forecast:
 - City of Bloomington needs our budget for 2020 by October 31. So, Dawn prepared draft idea with total expense \$27,201 based on 2019 budget and actual numbers so far.
 - After lengthy discussion the board agreed to budget more on improvement of website, communication and marketing, visit to ACES conference to research exchange student program, and so on. Also, it was suggested to add 1.8% annually for long term forecast incorporating yearly increase of cost of living. 60th Anniversary will be in 2023 budget year and Dawn will check 2012 or 2013 figures expensed for anniversary related activities and will add to 2023 accordingly.
 - Darren submitted motion to add \$3,000 to 2020 expense, and to forecast 2021 through 2025 with annual increase of 1.8%, beside additional expected expense for 60th in 2023. Steven seconded and unanimously approved by the board.
3. Reimbursement of various expenses by City: Dawn indicated that the form must filled electronically per city direction. So, every member was requested to fill out the form accordingly before submitting to Dawn who can fill out the code.

- **Chairman's report:** N/A

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

1. Anthony is doing fine and his report (blog) is up.
2. 2020-21 student: Informational meeting at Airport is scheduled on October 13th (Sun) 2pm. Selection interview is planned on November 17th.

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

1. Himeno is doing well. Welcome gathering on October 6th was well attended. She needs meningitis vaccination which was not done in Asahikawa. So, it will be taken care of with the committee expense.
2. Host family: Community Visit required by ACES within 21 days of arrival was conducted by Ken and the report was submitted. Stroyan family is offering to host

Himeno for entire school year if she wants and the committee is agreeable.

- **Junior Ambassadors to Asahikawa:** Reported by Jeff
 1. Jeff is doing informational session at BJHS and will do the presentation on 11/17. Informational meeting at Airport will be done sometime in January.
- **Junior Ambassadors from Asahikawa:** N/A
- **Special Events:** N/A
- **Japanese Garden:**
 1. Next weeding day and the last one for the year is October 13 (Sun) 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **Long Range Planning:** N/A
- **Publicity:**
 1. Ken will issue next newsletter in early October.
- **Old Business:** N/A
- **New Business:**
 1. McGraw Park monument: Dawn received email from Director of Parks, Bloomington, that it does not look good as it has been weathered and hard to read anymore. They asked us to fund the renovation though the amount expected is not known at this time.

At 8:01 p.m., Ken motioned, and Darren seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: November 4, 2019 6:30 pm at Airport Conference Room

Respectfully submitted, Ken Ota.