

Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting

Place: CIRA Airport Conference Room

Date: December 2, 2019

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

Excused Absence: Kyle Silver

Absent without notice:, Brenda Guest

Guest(s): Katherine Scheck, Chiko Tsukamoto

Meeting was called to order at 6:26p.m. by Darren Sampson.

- **Meeting Minutes:**
 1. Minutes for November was presented. Patrick moved to accept the minutes with one grammatical error and was seconded by Dawn, then it was approved unanimously.
- **Treasurer's Report:** by Dawn
 1. November expense was nothing unusual. There was a donation of \$5,000 by an Estate of John P. King. The motion to approve report was made by Darren seconded by Ryan and unanimously approved by the board.
- **Chairman's report:** by Darren
 1. Donation by John P. King Estate; Mr. King used to be a member of the committee. The board had a discussion how to utilize this donation and the consensus was to establish a scholarship to subsidize Junior Ambassador trip fees for those who in need. Darren and Jeff will work on the framework for the scholarship by January meeting for board's approval.
 2. Would like to have in informal get together in January after the board meeting.
- **High School students to Asahikawa:** Reported by Noha
 1. Anthony is doing fine and his report (blog) is up.
 2. 2020-21 student: Kaylee Diaz (15) was selected as our representative for next exchange student to Asahikawa. She is a cousin of Anthony. Ken will teach Japanese in the coming months.
- **High School students from Asahikawa:** Reported by Ryan
 1. Himeno is doing fine.
 2. Holiday gift to host family \$200 was proposed by Darren seconded by Ken and approved unanimously.
- **Junior Ambassadors to Asahikawa:** Reported by Jeff
 1. General informational meeting will be held on 1/26/20 1-3pm at Airport conference room. Dawn and Patrick will be the chaperons with possible additional chaperon depending on the number of students going to the trip.
- **Junior Ambassadors from Asahikawa:** N/A
 1. We need to start planning activities for the visitors in January. So, Darren encouraged

members to participate in this sub-committee.

- **Special Events:** N/A
- **Japanese Garden:**
 1. Steven is thinking to have few more plants in the spring.
- **Long Range Planning:** N/A
- **Publicity:**
 1. Ken will issue next newsletter in early January.
- **Old Business:** N/A
- **New Business:** N/A

At 7:59 p.m., Ken motioned, and Darren seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: January 6, 2020 6:30 pm at Airport Conference Room

Respectfully submitted, Ken Ota.

