

Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting

Place: Zoom Meeting

Date: November 2, 2020

Members in attendance: Ryan Apple, Dawn McBride, Sally Modine,
Darren Sampson, Ken Ota, Chiko Tsukamoto

Excused Absence: Kyle Silver, Jeff Kroesch, Patrick Clapper

Absent without notice: Laura Tepen, Brenda Guest

Guest(s): Katherine Scheck, Shengtian Wu

Meeting was called to order at 6:34p.m. by Darren Sampson.

- **October Meeting Minutes:**
 1. Board reviewed the minutes and Darren moved to accept October minutes as presented, seconded by Dawn and approved unanimously.

- **Chairman's report and discussion:** by Darren
 1. Darren officially communicated with Ms. Ushio of Asahikawa about our decision to cancel 2021 Junior Ambassador to Asahikawa, and 2021-22 High School exchange program due to COVID-19. Further, commented the important task in partnership with the Asahikawa Committee to find new and meaningful ways to continue the mission of our joint exchange programs.
 2. Judy Markowitz's son, Scott Harrison, contacted and pointed to the fact that Judy's involvement in the program is not mentioned in our website which he did not appreciate. So, we updated the contents to reflect her involvement in the early days of the program.

- **Treasurer's Report:** by Dawn
 1. There was no activity in October.
 2. Budget Update for 2021 and future prediction were submitted to City of Bloomington.

- **New business:** N/A
- **Sub-committees Reports:** N/A
- **Virtual Exchange Program:**
 1. Norihiro Sugano of Asahikawa sent us their idea for some kind of activities to continue our program in the absence of travelling between the cities.
 2. The committee had extensive discussion and exchange of opinions about the program. It was agreed to work on creating video to introduce some cultural and our local points of interest. More details will be developed in the next few days to begin the project.
 3. Tentative date/time for the joint Zoom meeting with Asahikawa is December 11th or 18th 7:00 p.m. our time.

At 7:47 p.m., Dawn motioned, and Ken seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: December 7, 2020 6:30 pm at Airport Conference Room or Zoom, to be decided.

Respectfully submitted, Ken Ota.