

Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting

Place: Zoom Meeting

Date: April 5, 2021

Members in attendance: Patrick Clapper, Jeff Kroesch, Dawn McBride, Ken Ota, Darren Sampson, Kyle Silver, Chiko Tsukamoto

Excused Absence: Sally Modin

Absent without notice: Ryan Apple, Brenda Guest, Laura Tepen

Guest(s): Katherine Scheck, Paul Bliss, Shengtian Wu

Meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Darren Sampson, and the recording of the meeting started.

- **Roll call of attendees:** 7 members in attendance, with one excused and three without notice absent. This confirms that a quorum is present. (Members in attendance as noted above.)
- **March, 2021 Meeting Minutes:**
 1. Board reviewed the minutes and Patrick moved to accept minutes as presented, seconded by Dawn and approved unanimously.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Dawn
 1. No activity in March, 2021.
- **Chairman's report and discussion:** by Darren
 1. Darren attended the Open Meetings Act - Better Understanding and Compliance Webinars arranged by the City of Bloomington on 3/18/21. Darren explained the gist of what was discussed mainly on the procedural rules of the meetings. This committee will follow them accordingly. Jeff and Ken are arranging to participate in the webinars to be held in April and May.
 2. Virtual Program: There has not been any activity as Asahikawa side is not ready for further discussion. Darren will discuss with counterpart and would like to propose virtual meeting with their committee in the near future, most probably on one of Friday evening our time for their Saturday morning. To be updated upon decided.
- **Sub-committees Reports:** N/A
- **New business:**
 1. Dawn made a suggestion to think about a CARE Package to send some items to Asahikawa committee so that we can tell them we are here and thinking about the program even though our hands are tied due to COVID-19 pandemic's various restrictions. The board basically agreed to this idea and Jeff will take charge to study gift items and budgets to cover the program so that this will be discussed and voted in May meeting. Google Document is to be set up so everybody can send ideas for this project.
 2. Garden: Since it is getting close to the season when everything is growing, we need to start watching the garden with upkeep. Darren will look into it and keep everyone posted.
- **Old business:**
 1. Asia Quizon-Colquitt, 2019-20 exchange student, is looking for internship opportunity

and she is now applying for the position with Chicago's Sister Cities Committee. In the meantime, should there be any opportunity coming up that the members are aware of Patrick wants to be informed. Patrick is working on it, too.

At 7:25 p.m., Jeff moved, and Kyle seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting is adjourned and the recording of the meeting stopped.

Next Meeting: May 3, 2021 6:30 pm at Airport Conference Room or Zoom, to be decided.

Respectfully submitted, Ken Ota.

