

## Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting

**Place:** Zoom Meeting

**Date:** October 4, 2021

**Members in attendance:** Ryan Apple, Patrick Clapper, Jeff Kroesch, Dawn McBride, Ken Ota, Darren Sampson, Chiko Tsukamoto

**Excused Absence:** Kyle Silver, Brenda Guest

**Guest(s):** Katherine Scheck

Meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Jeff Kroesch and the recording of the meeting started. ([https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1w6\\_Nf4RXhGkhjz-p2wQ7EvRdoMl6Mms8](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1w6_Nf4RXhGkhjz-p2wQ7EvRdoMl6Mms8))

- **Roll call of attendees:** 6 members in attendance, with 2 excused absent. This confirms that a quorum is present. (Members in attendance as noted above. Darren joined the meeting around 6:55pm)
- **September 2021 Meeting Minutes:**
  1. Board reviewed the minutes and Patrick moved to accept minutes as presented, seconded by Ryan and approved unanimously.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Dawn presented via email
  1. No activity in September 2021.
- **Chairman's report and discussion:** N/A
- **Sub-committees Reports:**
  1. High School Exchange Program: Since timing for student selection is approaching, we need to discuss with Japan side soon to decide how we proceed for 2022/23 exchange students. Darren will take the lead in these efforts.
  2. Junior Ambassador 2022: It was agreed that this program is not feasible under the circumstances and notify those who ask us the position accordingly.
- **New business:**
  1. Katherine suggested to do the virtual exchange program using the study of Asia's work in order to keep good relationship with Japan side despite pandemic situation. Jeff will study what we can do about it.
  2. Chiko suggested to review Asia's work and see if there's any other point(s) that can be added from Japanese customs viewpoint.
- **Old business:**
  1. CARE Package: Jeff is trying to ship out the package ASAP upon obtaining Beernuts.
  2. Garden Cleanup: It is determined that no more work is needed this year.
  3. It was clarified that the Chairperson for Asahikawa Committee remains as Ms. Ushio.

At 7:32 p.m., Darren moved, and Patrick seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting is adjourned, and the recording of the meeting stopped.

**Next Meeting:** November 1, 2021, 6:30 pm at Conference Room or Zoom, to be decided.

Respectfully submitted, Ken Ota.