

## **Bloomington-Normal Japanese Sister Cities Committee Meeting**

**Place:** 11 Uptown Circle in Normal. Room 334

**Date:** April 4th, 2022

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

**Excused Absence:**

**Unknown Absence:** Kyle Silver

**Guest(s):** Brenda Guest

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Darren Sampson

- Eight members in attendance. This confirms that a quorum is present.  
(Members in attendance as noted above.)

### **• March 2022 Meeting Minutes:**

1. Board reviewed the minutes and Steven moved to accept minutes as presented, seconded by Ryan and approved unanimously.

### **• Treasurer's Report:**

No new items to report this month

The laptop money still encumbered, not listed as paid

Steven moved to accept the treasures report, seconded by Ryan and approved unanimously.

### **• Chairman's report and discussion: Darren**

New Business

Ken Ota is back on the committee.

StarNet Printing meeting had to be rescheduled from March 16<sup>th</sup>. It will be scheduled in the early part of April by Darren.

Darren/Chizuko sent the note to Asahikawa regarding the passing of former Sister City Chairman, Yamada Minoru.

Darren spoke with the former chairperson about the email address and the website address he is paying for. He has agreed to allow us to continue using it but we will pay the charges. We need to get the information from him on the costs of email address/website address. Darren will need to talk to him about switching the billing invoices from him to the committee

Patrick Clapper will be moving to Texas and there will be an opening for the secretary position. This will be his last meeting. The executive committee is discussing who will take his place.

Darren will schedule a committee yearend celebration as was unable to do that during the holidays due to COVID.

- **Sub-committees Reports:**

- New business:

Jeff is being asked if we can allow Juniors on the Junior Ambassador program (current cutoff is Sophomores) to go to Asahikawa as some students missed it due to COVID. Just the group that was cancelled in 2020. This will be tabled and once the program is about to resume, we will revisit this topic.

Steven will meet this week with Assistant Director of Normal Parks and Rec to discuss the garden. Will discuss ground cover near the waterfall and the Japanese Birch. Will also talk about a way to store the water hose and other items we may want to store there.

Steven will also come up with a schedule for garden maintenance

- Old business:

Jeff indicated the kids are still enjoying Asian's demos.

No response back regarding the University High School heritage month.

Ken mentioned there are numerous heritage month events going on and will provide information on the specific events.

At 7:10 Jeff moved, and Ryan seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting is adjourned.

Next Meeting: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, 6:30 pm at 11 Uptown Circle in Normal. Room 334

Respectfully submitted, Patrick Clapper