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

**Place:** Central Illinois Regional Airport Conference Room 1

**Date: September 11th, 2023**

**Members in attendance: Jeffrey Kroesch, Veronica Kroesch, Chizuko Tsukamoto, Bennet Morris, Katherine Scheck, Steven Campbell, Dawn McBride**

**Excused Absence**: Brenda Guest, Darren Sampson

**Guest(s):** Sarah Adelman

Attendance notes: Meeting was called to order by Jeff Kroesch

* 7 members in attendance. This confirms that a quorum is present.

(Members in attendance as noted above.)

• **Roll call of attendees**: 7 members in attendance. This confirms that a quorum is present (We need 5 people there = ½ the members (9) + 1). (Members in attendance as noted above.)

•**August Meeting Minutes:**

Treasurer’s report: Anniversary charges: Destihl, Marriott, Meltdown; Other: Google monthly charges for website Kyle moves, Bennett seconds.

Junior to: No news; Jeff still plans to speak to Japan chairman about reducing length of stay (and propose 2 HS students as well)

Junior from: No news

New business: Japan would like to gift us a tree.

Chairman Report: Ken and Kyle have ended their commitments with the Sister city committee.

Veronica Kroesh was officially designated as a committee member

as well as Eric Sweetwood of Normal and Noah Davison of Normal as well.

Jeff received a request from Asahikawa for another art project.

Highschool from: Sana is doing well, but seems to be allergic to cats. She is adjusting well with her host family. We will get her new gym clothes via P-card transaction. Also we will cover the cost from ACES that is being billed to Asahikawa not us and we will get that rectified. Chizuko will be taking Sana out for some fun on the 17th. SHe is adapting well at school and enjoys her teachers.

Highschool to: Arisa is doing well and is updating via her blog. Her mom Nikki said a relative will stop by to visit her in Asahikawa.

Also we will need to start thinking about our next student to send over as that process will begin in November. Jeff will talk to Norihiro about possibly sending two students like in the past. so we will prepare to discuss more at the next meeting, and to have google drive files for what we need.

As well we will vote on senior roles for the committee as voting will be coming up.

Junior from Asahikawa: They will be starting back up and coming next year so we will need to begin preparations for planning the time they are here.

Junior to Asahikawa: Jeff has recruited a 3rd Chaperone Eric Steigemann. He is a teacher at Unit 5 and Jeff has worked with him in the past, he is also helping us with some advertising. Jeff will be revising the application to include a letter of recommendation from a teacher. The letter is to be sealed when received by the committee and on school stationary if applicable.

New/old business: we will get updates done to the website and get the past minutes added to the website as well as past and future agendas.

motion to adjourn the meeting: Veronica motions to adjourn followed by seconded by Bennet at 7:22 pm