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

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

**Date: November 6th, 2023**

**Members in attendance: Jeffrey Kroesch, Veronica Kroesch, Chizuko Tsukamoto, Bennet Morris, Katherine Scheck, Dawn McBride,** Brenda Guest, Noah Davidson, Ryan Apple, Sarah Adelman

**Excused Absence**: Darren Sampson, **Steven Campbell, Eric Sweetwood**

**Guest(s): Jane Brown**

Attendance notes: Meeting was called to order by Jeff Kroesch

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

(Members in attendance as noted above.)

• **Roll call of attendees**: 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.)

•**October Meeting Minutes: Approved Motioned by Brenda, seconded by Sarah**

Treasurer’s report: Monthly stipend for Sana is listed for past 4 months. As well as the charge for Google. Sarah motioned to approve, and Kat seconded, all in agreement to approve treasurers report.

New business: We need to get a gift card for the host family. Next meeting, we will take photo for Christmas card. Jeff submitted proposal form last meeting to city hall.

Chairman Report: We need to hold elections for the next term of three years.

Chairman – Jeff Kroesch runs unopposed.

Treasurer – Dawn McBride runs unopposed.

Secretary – Katherine Scheck runs unopposed.

Vice Chairman – Bennett Morris runs unopposed.

Elections are completed.

Jeff has found someone to work on graphics for the committee. Radio station at Waterson tower did an interview with Jeff about the program.

Highschool from: Ryan will step down from local coordinator and we will need a new one to take over. Veronica Kroesch will take over as local coordinator. Sana is doing well; she is starting to open up more and seems more comfortable. We are still looking for new host families. We have a few prospects we are looking at.

Highschool to Asahikawa: Jeff is working on the website as it’s having issues with the application process. If we only get a few applicants, then Jeff will reach out to a previous years applicant. During the next meeting on 4th of December we will go thru applicants and get a decision made on final interviews to be held on the 10th of December. Any Committee members interested are welcome to attend and have a vote on the next exchange student. Jeff would like us to be able to host the student blog on our website. We also need a new coordinator to help since Ken left that role, Sarah will takeover in that position.

Junior to: Jeff will have a meeting soon to go over information about the program and to see who is interested in filling that. Applications will open in February, so we still have time to promote that. Chaperones have been chosen for that trip.

Junior from: No news. Dawn McBride will take over the subcommittee role of that trip.

New/old business: We are working on getting the website update, and redesigned. Kat and Noah will investigate getting that going. As well as a page for Arisa’s Blog to be linked to our website.

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Vote to dismiss by Dawn, seconded by Kat