

July Sister City Meeting Minutes May 10, 2023

City Hall, Small Conference Room

Present: Eileen Bergeson, Lars Pedersen, Keiko Pedersen, Kandy Lewis (phone, Bill as guest), Frances, Angie Wean, Erin Harnish

Minutes of April meeting, approved as written. Motion by Lars, second by Angie.

Keiko will talk to Marie about taking over the LCC liaison position.

Membership Review: Due to bylaws, continually absent members (specifically for more than a certain number of absences) may be removed from commission membership from other resources. Angie will meet with Tammi Edwards to take action to better follow our charter guidelines such as having one school board member (appointed by LSD) and Longview/Kelso Chamber of Commerce employee.

Project Reports:

Squirrel Bridge is nearly complete, will be placed at the Bridge 9 location.

Nippon Dynawave tour: On track, Lars will attend to help Hiro with translation. May 19 we will meet at 9:15 AM to prepare.

School Gardens Miso Project is in track and populated with helpers as needed.

Wako Citizen Delegation Ten students will arrive along with the adult group. Keiko will actively recruit on her late May trip to Japan, and then we will start looking for host families.

Longview student exchange with Wako: Prior to the pandemic, Longview and Wako has had yearly trade-off exchanges every year. Keiko will find out if the intention of the two cities regarding frequency of the exchange.

Angie's report on commission rules and fund-raising vis a vis the Mark Morris Foundation, etc., anything other than the commission itself. A provision in our state constitution contains a clause that forbids fund raising by us in this regard. Russ has good ideas about this. Foundations, as 401(c)(3), can be used as intermediaries to accept funds that the foundation could then disperse scholarships.