

Sister City Meeting Minutes July 12, 2023

City Hall, Small Conference Room

Present: Lars Pedersen, Keiko Pedersen, Eileen Bergeson, Erin Harnish, Kandi & Bill Lewis, Russ Brewer (guest), Francis Hearn, Angie Wean

Minutes of June meeting, approved as written. Motion by Kandi, second by Angie, unanimous pass vote.

Angie Wean report on membership: We have eleven spots and one vacancy. The bylaws provide rules for excused / unexcused absences leading to removal of non-participating members. Marie Boisvert, Sean Turpin, and Steve Moon are the principal members under consideration. We look forward to welcoming Russ Brewer as well as Judy Smith as new members. Our bylaws ought to be revisited, perhaps next month, regarding clauses mandating a Chamber of Commerce member, for example. We will contact these members.

Squirrel Bridge report: Eileen reports it has gone for final welding and is in progress.

Zoom meeting with Koei Science report: Keiko reports we will set up a date and time to have a Zoom meeting to make fruit vinegar project, as was offered by Koei Science last month. They will produce details of materials needed, and Keiko will verify how much time it is expected to take. There are less special ingredients compared to making miso. Whether or not a full kitchen is needed will be verified. Space and a sink may suffice. We will keep this on the agenda for next month.

Wako Exchanges: Atomi program in August is still looking for two host families (or perhaps one family for two students). Angie suggested a press release to further interest.

Wako Citizen Delegation Visit: A complication this time is the absence of the Columbia River Reader bus, which makes shuttling of both hotel staying and home staying groups. Frances would like to focus on bag contents along with Keiko, and Erin and Eileen can focus on itinerary. LCC can provide breakfast for one more year before Chris Bailey retires. The Rose Center at LCC can be used for the first night welcome ceremony. Funding and transportation appear our biggest challenges. Hop & Grape is no longer an option for catering like before.

Russ Brewer on fundraising ideas: How interested the student body is currently is a topic of interest in conversation with Travis Ruhter. The Mark Morris Foundation's role in previous visit fundraising was discussed as well as the complications of fund raising within regulations.