

LONGVIEW SISTER CITY COMMISSION

JANUARY 8, 2025

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

5:15 PM — Opening remarks and welcome by the Chair.

II. Roll Call and Welcome Guests

- Recognize any new or returning attendees.

III. Approval of December 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes

IV. Discussion Items

1. Wako Kokusai Program Update

- Status of homestay and day host arrangements.
- Review discussions with Jim Duscha, Steve Moon, Keiko Pedersen, and Russ Brewer regarding program coordination.
- Confirmation of \$3,000 allocated in the 2025 budget for Sister City programs and discussion on fund allocation for the Wako Kokusai program.
- Consider Erin Harnish's proposed strategy:
 - Collaborate with Karen Cloninger (new superintendent) to strengthen school partnerships.
 - Explore using day hosts at high schools and securing 5–10 host families for afternoon-to-morning hosting.
 - Potentially organize after-school activities (e.g., LCC gym or school events) to provide pickup flexibility for working families.
- Discuss efforts to identify and recruit host families and specific City involvement.

2. Review of Attached Documents

- Discuss the "Implementation Plan" and "Coordinator Responsibilities and Timeline" documents.
- Determine key actions and responsibilities for program execution.

3. ATOMI Student Program Planning

- Updates on planning progress for the February 15–March 10 visit.
- Finalize host families and coordination with Longview schools.
- Confirm specific activity requests (e.g., fire station visit).

4. Video Chat with St. Helen's Grade School

- Updates from Lars Pedersen on planning and feedback.
- Discuss next steps to enhance engagement with students.

5. Sister City Delegation Planning for 2025

- Share initial ideas for delegation hosting and gather input.

V. New Business

- Open floor for additional items.

VI. Guest Comments

- Invite comments or questions from guests in attendance.

VII. Adjournment

- Confirm the next meeting date: February 12, 2025, at 5:15 PM.