

Sister City Meeting Minutes Dec 11, 2024

City Hall, Small Conference Room

Call to Order 5:25 PM, **Roll Call, Present:** Lars Pedersen, Keiko Pedersen, Kandi Lewis (phone), Steve Moon (phone), Russ Brewer, Frances Hearn, Eileen Bergeson, Erin Harnish **Guest:** Mark Bergeson

Absent: Angie Wean (excused), PJ Peterson (excused)

Previous meeting minutes approved unanimously.

Wako Kokusai Program Update: Mark Morris has informed us that due to a lack of club advisor brings challenges such that they will not be able to handle homestays this year, only day activities. Erin will make an appointment with the new school superintendent to read her in and make our case. Relying on other connections for opportunities will be important. Wako has asked about a summer program, but we remind them that summer is our annual school break. Keiko and her boss have been engaging Three Rivers Chrisitan School as a way to have a school-type experience. Visiting both private and public schools may be interesting. Frances suggests we involve the visiting students with LCC experiences as well. Mark Morris is willing to host/provide during the whole visit (just no homestays through them). Steve reminds us that there is a line item in the city budget for roughly \$2k-ish that we may hopefully use. Russ will bring that up in his meeting with the manager.

Atomi Student Program Planning: Keiko is about to send bio packets and info to and from the hosts and students. They asked if they can visit the fire station, as a specific ask. Feb 15 – Mar 10 is the program duration.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM. Next Meeting: Jan 8, 2025, at 5:15 PM