

Agenda 3/15/2023

Video Conference

1. Call to Order: (do we have a quorum)
2. Additions/Deletions:
3. Approval of Minutes: January 25, 2023
4. Financial Report: **Doreen**
5. Liaison Reports: (As applicable)
 - i) Chamber-**Mayor Wenzl**
 - ii) City – **Anna**
 - iii) Forest Grove Daybreak Rotary Club-few comments about presentation-
Nicole/Larisa
6. Subcommittee: Latin Subcommittee - the Sister City of Interest Subcommittee actions-**Nicole/John/Tim/Larisa**
7. Old Business:
 - i) Adult Delegation to Nyuzen and Pacific University student (2023)
 - ii) Student Delegation from Nyuzen to Forest Grove (2023)
 - iii) The Sister City of Interest-Ukraine- **Larisa**
8. New Business:
9.
 - i) Azumi stepping down as a Vice Chair
 - ii) Election of new Vice Chair
 - iv) Member list update
10. Next Meeting
 - i) Date
 - ii) Time
 - iii) Location
11. Adjournment

Forest Grove/Nyuzen Sister Cities Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 25, 2023

Meeting Location: Video Conference

Members: Present:

Nefedov, Larisa	Chair
Anderson, Kermit	Secretary
Allen, Linda	
Stenson, Doreen	Treasurer
Beechwood III, John	
Nowlin, Nicole	
Unander, Sig	

Members Absent: Anderson, Jackie; Stapp, Azumi (Vice-Chair); Walton, Debby

Guest: None

Others:

Blackmun, Rich	
Ruggles, Anna	Staff Liaison, Absent
Wenzl, Malynda	Mayor, Liaison

- 1. Call to Order** Meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by Nefedov. Due to COVID-19 the meeting was held via Zoom conferencing. Members were variously in attendance at City Auditorium or connected remotely.
- 2. Quorum** Yes
- 3. Minutes** Minutes from the October 12, 2022, meeting were distributed and reviewed. SCC bank balance was omitted from the minutes. Correction provided.
Motion: moved by Allen, seconded by Nefedov to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.
- 4. Financial Report** SCC Account balance is \$5492.44 (same as previous meeting)
SCC Bottle Drop account is \$516.96 (market credit), \$430.80 (cash).
- 5. Liaison Reports**
 - a. Chamber (Nowlin)**
 - 1) The new interim Chamber Director, Claudia Yakos met with Nowlin and expressed enthusiastic support for establishing a sister city relationship with a suitable city in Mexico. Nefedov inquired as to the Latin America sub-committee efforts begun last year. Unander reported working on a press release to raise public awareness. He further stated his intention to contact Rippe and move

forward on the press release. Nefedov also stated her intention to assess Rippe's future plans regarding his role of facilitator of the efforts to identify a Latin American sister city.

- 2) Mayor Wenzl inquired if the Chamber and SCC are anticipating an increase in activity with the sister city program, such as yearly fundraising events which had been discontinued during the pandemic.

b. City (Mayor Wenzl)

Malynda Wenzl, newly-elected mayor of Forest Grove made her debut as city council liaison. Among general references to the mayoral and city council turnover due to the elections of last November she announced:

- 1) the establishment of possibly three community enhancement grants in the amount of \$10,000 plus a multiyear grant.
- 2) Plans to review and update the city charter.
- 3) City Hall renovation scheduled to be complete sometime in May.

6. Subcommittees Updates—Latin American (Nefedov)

Nefedov suggested the Latin American sub-committee confer off-line to re-evaluate goals, objectives, and individuals' involvement for 2023.

7. Old Business

Adult Delegation + College Student to Nyuzen

- 1) Nyuzen celebrates their 70th anniversary sometime in Nov. '23. The committee needs to ascertain their dates of celebration and workout the details of the adult delegation's visit. Nefedov to confer with Stapp in communicating with Nyuzen counterparts for details.
- 2) The mayor and a number of SCC members have signaled intention to accompany the delegation. SCC members wishing to attend are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.
- 3) It is highly desirable/necessary for the delegation to include someone familiar with the language and culture of Japan.

Student Delegation from Nyuzen

Mayor called attention to the desirability of finding suitable host families with school age children. She indicated that she would speak directly with specific teachers for assistance in recruiting such suitable host families. This is a challenge of longstanding for our student delegations to Forest Grove. Stenson also made a request to find dates for the visit sometime in Oct.

8. New Business

Ukraine Sister City

Nefedov and Nowlin reported on a meeting with an individual who claims to have a Ukrainian city in mind for a sister city relationship with Forest Grove. Considering Ukraine and Mexico as new countries with which to establish new sister cities presents a number of new challenges for the SCC, not the least of which is finding enough

volunteers to staff the additional subcommittee. This is reinforced by the difficulty SCC has had in recruiting volunteers for a Latin American sister city. SCC will also need to make structural modifications to expand sister city relationships beyond Nyuzen. Fortunately, the revision of our bylaws has allowed for this.

- 9. Next Meeting(s)** Wednesday, March, 15 2022, 5:00 pm
To be held virtually
- 10. Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm.