

Forest Grove/Nyuzen Sister Cities Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: July 12, 2023
Meeting Location: City Auditorium and Video Conference
Members: Present:
Nefedov, Larisa Chair
Nowlin, Nicole Vice-Chair
Anderson, Kermit Secretary
Stenson, Doreen Treasurer
Anderson, Jackie
Allen, Linda
Beechwood III, John
Members Absent: Unander, Sig
Guest: Pat Truax
Others:
Blackmun, Rich
Phillips, Joyce Staff Liaison
Ruggles, Anna Staff Liaison
Wenzl, Malynda Mayor, Liaison

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Nefedov. Due to COVID-19 the meeting was held via Zoom conferencing as well as in person at the City Auditorium.

2. Quorum Yes

3. Minutes

Minutes from the June 14, 2023, meeting were distributed and reviewed. Corrections to financial report made.

Motion: moved by Beechwood III, seconded by Nefedov to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

4. Financial Report Treasurer Stenson

- a. SCC Account balance is \$6067.84.
- b. SCC Bottle Drop account is cash: \$205.59, credit: \$246.71
- c. The above balances reflect \$500.00 cashed out from the Bottle Drop account and deposited in the general fund.

5. Liaison Reports a. City (Ruggles, Wenzl)

- 1) Ruggles introduced Joyce Philips, FG Staff Liaison who will be taking over for her upon her retirement later this month.

- 2) Mayor extended an invitation to the committee to the ribbon cutting ceremony opening the newly remodeled FG City Hall on July 13, 4-6 pm.
- 3) Wenzl reminded the committee of Ruggles' retirement party on July 27 4:30-6:30 pm at the City Auditorium.

b. Chamber (Wenzl)

Wenzl recommended SCC reach out to the Chamber's new interim director Claudia Yakos to establish a mechanism for liaising with the Chamber in light of the mayor's inability to attend their meetings.

6. Subcommittees Updates—Latin American (Nefedov)

No report

7. New Business **None**

8. Old Business **a. Adult Delegation to Nyuzen**

- 1) Ruggles distributed a five-page extensive detailed handout “Delegation Orientation—FG Nyuzen Delegation Visit 2023, General Travel Tips”. Ruggles walked through the handout discussing many details.
- 2) Pat Truax scheduled the SCC to assemble at the city auditorium on August 16 at 3:00 pm for the video shoot with the banner that will be presented to the people of Nyuzen in connection with their 70th anniversary celebration as a city. The committee decided to hold next month’s regular meeting immediately following the videotaping.
- 3) Beechwood III shared with the committee the 70th anniversary commemorative gift he is creating. As mentioned in previous meeting minutes it is a wooden vase in the wabi-sabi design style. The inscription and other details of presentation are yet to be finalized.
- 4) Mayor Wenzl asked for help with appropriate talking points in her anticipated interviews with Japanese news outlets surround the delegation visit. Ruggles agreed to provide her with a handout summarizing the sister city relationship and highlights of the Forest Grove community.
- 5) Nowlin requested Nyuzen be prompted for profiles of homestay families.

b. Student Delegation to Forest Grove

No action until adult delegation details are settled.

9. Next Meeting(s) Wednesday, August 19, 2023 3:30 pm. In person City Auditorium

10. Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Approved by SCC on August 13, 2023.