

Forest Grove/Nyuzen Sister Cities Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: August 16, 2023

Meeting Location: City Auditorium

Members: Present:

Nefedov, Larisa	Chair
Nowlin, Nicole	Vice-Chair
Anderson, Kermit	Secretary
Stenson, Doreen	Treasurer
Anderson, Jackie	
Beechwood III, John	
Unander, Sig	

Members Absent: Allen, Linda

Guest: Pat Truax

Others:

Blackmun, Rich	Absent
Phillips, Joyce	Staff Liaison
Wenzl, Malynda	Mayor, Liaison Absent

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m. by Nefedov.

2. Quorum Yes

3. Minutes

Minutes from the July 12, 2023, meeting were distributed and reviewed.

Motion: moved by J. Anderson, seconded by Nowlin approve the minutes as corrected.

Motion carried.

4. Financial Report Treasurer Stenson

- a. SCC Account balance is \$5067.84. This reflects a withdrawal of \$1000 to be given to Nefedov for her expenses as a member of this year's delegation to Nyuzen.
- b. SCC Bottle Drop account is cash: \$238.64, credit: \$286.37

5. Liaison Reports a. City (Phillips)

- 1) Phillips announced that the city website is scheduled for a major upgrade around the end of September, beginning of October.
- 2) Phillips also notified the SCC of an upcoming livability survey to be widely distributed to the community including an inclusion with the utility bill, posting on social media e.g., Facebook and Nextdoor and manual handouts at Wednesday beginning Sept. 1. Widespread participation is encouraged.

- 3) The City Recorder position recently vacated by Anna Ruggles has been filled. The new person (first name Mariah (sp?)) starts on September 5. She is relocating to Oregon from Santa Barbara, CA. Phillips will continue as city liaison to the SCC for the immediate future.

b. Chamber (Phillips)

Nefedov reported contacting acting Chamber Director to establish communication protocols between SCC and the Chamber. No meeting has taken place to date.

6. Subcommittees Updates—Latin American (Nefedov)

No report

7. New Business Azumi Stapp Resigns

The committee received official notification of Azumi Stapp's resignation from the SCC. Her energy, expertise and contributions will be missed.

8. Old Business a. Adult Delegation to Nyuzen

- 1) SCC members gathered prior to this meeting to pose with the banner commemorating Nyuzen's 70th anniversary as a city. The banner and video will accompany the delegation to be presented to the Nyuzen city fathers and homestay hosts.
- 2) The Sept. meeting of SCC will include as many delegates as possible for final instructions. The topic of appropriate dress for the delegates while in Japan was brought up and emphasis on this topic will be delivered at the meeting. Nowlin will contact individually any delegates unable to attend the SCC meeting.
- 3) Beechwood III displayed the wooden vase gift he has been working on. The myrtle wood vase has fungal imperfections in keeping with the wabi-sabi style of Japanese art. Nowlin and Beechwood III will finalize the English and Japanese text to be inscribed on the bottom of the vase. The SCC was unanimous in their appreciation of Beechwood's work.

b. Student Delegation to Forest Grove

No action until adult delegation details are settled. Concerns were voiced about securing homestay families with appropriate aged children. The SCC is encouraged to begin thinking of suitable activities for the visitors, including time in school.

9. Next Meeting(s) Wednesday, September 6, 2023 (TBD 4 or 5 pm.) In person City Auditorium

10. Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 4:19 pm.