

Forest Grove/Nyuzen Sister Cities Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: July 9, 2024
Meeting Location: City Auditorium and Zoom
Members Present:
Nefedov, Larisa Chair
Anderson, Kermit Secretary
Anderson, Jackie
Beechwood III, John Zoom
Jones, Ariana Zoom
Nowlin, Nicole Vice-Chair, Zoom
Stenson, Doreen Treasurer, Zoom
Members Absent: Allen, Unander, Blackmun
Others:
Phillips, Joyce Staff Liaison
Martinez, Karen City Counselor, City Council Liaison

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Nefedov.

2. Quorum Yes

3. Minutes

Minutes for the meeting of May 30, 2024 were distributed and reviewed.

Motion: moved by J. Anderson and seconded by Beechwood to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

4. Financial Report Treasurer Stenson

- a. Current balance \$4987.97 following Stenson's withdrawal of \$500.00 from Bottle Drop account for deposit into main account.
- b. Bottle Drop cash account balance is \$145.00 and store credit balance is \$174.00
- c. Thanks to Blackmun for collecting recyclables for SCC from the city employees.

5. Liaison Reports a. City (Martinez)

No Report

b. Chamber (Nefedov)

No Report—Chamber-SCC liaison mechanism still needs to be established. Pete Truax agreed to explore establishing a liaison with Chamber. Martinez reports Councilman Rippe had indicated the Chamber Director Claudia Yakos would liaise with SCC, but as yet she has not made contact with SCC Chair.

6. Subcommittees Updates—Latin American (Nefedov)

No Report

7. Old Business

Adult and Student Delegations from Nyuzen

- a. Nowlin reports no new information has been received from Nyuzen regarding their specific itinerary. The mayor and his assistant plus 8 students and 3 adult chaperones (13 total) will arrive from Seattle at PDX sometime Oct. 29.
- b. Homestay families recruitment can go forward. Due to last year's experience homestay families will be recruited for pairs of students. Note that the city utility bill no longer includes the news bulletin which has been our method of homestay recruitment.
- c. The committee reviewed the itinerary/activity proposals.
- d. Tuesday, Oct. 29-Phillips can arrange for their pickup at PDX around 1 pm. Lunch suggestions included La Sierra Mexican restaurant on Pacific Ave.. K. and J. Anderson will contact the restaurant management to discuss specifics for the party of 15-16 for a preset lunch menu. Following lunch all go to the city auditorium for their welcome. At the auditorium gift bags will await. Homestay families, city, fire, and police staff will be present to welcome them. Several committee members will be available to remain with the students should their homestay families arrival be delayed due to work schedules. Homestay family pickup is expected to be 4:30-5:00 pm.
- e. Wednesday, Oct. 30-The Celebration Dinner-We discussed including the students with the adults at a celebration dinner or plan a separate event for the students. Consensus was to have a dinner with everyone. Suggestions for the guest list included:

Japanese Consul General (1)	Tektronix Rep (1)	Mr. and Mrs. Truax (2)
City Manager + spouse (2)	Japanese Thorns Player (1)	Host families (?)
Mayor + spouse (2)	Pres. Pac. University + 1 (2)	Chiefs Fire and Police +2 (4)
City Counselors +spouses (12)	SCC Committee (10+?)	Pac. U. Japanese Club vols. (?)
F.G. School Super. + spouse (2)		

The idea of having the dinner at the City Auditorium has a benefit of economy. Outside venues as local wineries come with expenses for the use of the premises that reduce the amount of money available for food.

- f. Wednesday, Oct. 30- Two proposed activities for the day of the dinner include a local watershed tour followed by exploration of the Fernhill Wetlands. In preparation for possible inclement weather ponchos and umbrellas will be needed. Someone proposed that the group (15-16) have lunch at Ridgewalker. K. and J. Anderson will contact management to explore feasibility and report back at next meeting. To simplify food ordering we will inquire about preordering with management. Host family pickup is scheduled for 4:30-5:00.
- g. Thursday, Oct. 31, Halloween- Phillips will arrange for transport to PDX for the mayor and his assistant. Allen and Beechwood are planning activities for the group in the morning at Valley Art. Lunch is planned for Pizza Schmitza. Following lunch the group will proceed to the library for Karaoke. Following the library event host

families are expected to pick the guests up and take them trick-or-treating in downtown.

- h. Friday, Nov. 1- This is the school day. After school dismissal students can go to either the police or fire tour. The committee expressed preference for the fire department as being more interesting and hands on for the students.
- i. Saturday, Nov. 2-This is departure day for the remaining delegation. Transport to PDX will be scheduled upon receipt of specific flight information.
- j. The committee needs to choose some entertainment for the celebration dinner. Phillips mentioned barbershop quartet as a possibility and will make inquiries and report back.

8. Next Meeting(s) Thursday, August 1, 2024, 5:00 pm at the Community Auditorium Conference Room and via Zoom.

9. Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.