

Forest Grove/Nyuzen Sister Cities Committee Meeting Minutes APPROVED

Meeting Date: May 14, 2025
Meeting Location: City Auditorium and Zoom
Members Present:
Anderson, Kermit Secretary
Anderson, Jackie
Beechwood III, John
Nowlin, Nicole Chair
Stenson, Doreen Treasurer

Members Absent: Nefedov, Larisa

Guests: Mayor Wenzl

Others:

Blackmun, Rich Staff Liaison Absent
Phillips, Joyce Staff Liaison
Martinez, Karen City Council liaison
Yakos, Claudia Chamber (Liaison), Director, Zoom

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by Nowlin.

2. Quorum Yes

3. Minutes

Minutes for the meetings of April 15, 2025 were distributed to all committee members.

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

4. Finance	Stenson
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a. Balance \$3636.04. This balance was submitted by Yakos and reflects payments not captured by Stenson.
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b. Bottle Drop credit \$459.07 and cash \$382.56 Blackmun acct. credit \$85.33 cash \$71.11 K. Anderson acct. credit \$41.75, cash \$34.79
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5. Liaison Reports	a. City-Martinez
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No Report

b. Chamber-Yakos

1) The recent Wine Walk on May 3 was a successful event.
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- 2) A build event is scheduled for June 5 at the Drake Center featuring local companies for building resources.
- 3) Chamber leadership is working on a strategic planning document for the next three years.

c. Staff Update-Phillips

- 1) Nicole Nowlin has been selected as the delegation interpreter.
- 2) The 2040 Visioning activities are continuing. The next phase of activities will be announced, and committee member input will be requested.
- 3) A Civics Academy is scheduled to begin in the Fall of this year. The Academy will accommodate 10- 20 interested citizens.

6. Old Business

a. Adult Delegation-Nowlin and Committee

- 1) Transportation arrangements have been made. The travel dates are as follows:
 Depart Forest Grove-July 1 Arrive Tokyo-July 2 Depart Tokyo-July 4
 Arrive Nyuzen-July 4 Depart Nyuzen July 8.
- 2) The sightseeing options for the delegates while in Tokyo are to be determined.
- 3) Delegates will meet to get acquainted on May 27, the location to be determined.
- 4) Delegate Gretchen Uh has decided to withdraw from the delegation, citing concerns over the immigration policies of the current federal administration and the risks she might encounter on reentering the USA.
- 5) SCC entertained suggestions for the gift for the city of Nyuzen. A city budget for the gift is \$150. Several committee members spoke highly of selecting a work by Cornelius artist Uli Kirchler. His work is on display at Valley Art and has been seen by several committee members. Beechwood knows the artist and has agreed to contact him and determine what he might be willing to produce within the SCC budget.

b. Student Delegation

No substantive report was made due to the short time frame of the adult delegation. Nowlin did indicate she would work on developing a form for use in submitting suggestions for student delegation activities. Phillips and Nowlin will also locate new host family application forms.

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| 7. | Next Meeting | Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 4:30 pm Zoom only |
| 8. | Adjournment | Meeting adjourned 6:03 pm |