

## Forest Grove/Nyuzen Sister Cities Committee Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** June 10, 2025  
**Meeting Location:** Zoom only  
**Members Present:**  
 Anderson, Kermit Secretary  
 Anderson, Jackie  
 Beechwood III, John  
 Nefedov, Larisa Vice-Chair  
 Nowlin, Nicole Chair  
**Absent:** Stenson, Doreen; Blackmun, Rich; Yakos, Claudia  
**Guests:**  
**Others:**  
 Phillips, Joyce Staff Liaison  
 Martinez, Karen City Council liaison

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m. by Nowlin.

**2. Quorum** Yes

**3. Minutes**

Minutes for the meetings of May 14, 2025 were distributed to all committee members.  
Motion: moved by Stenson and seconded by Beechwood to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

<b>4. Finance</b>	<b>Stenson-Reports submitted by email</b>
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| a. Balance \$4,372.53.<br><br>b. Bottle Drop credit \$469.01 and cash \$390.84<br>Blackmun acct. credit and cash unreported<br>K. Anderson acct. credit \$71.57, cash \$59.57 |
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<b>5. Liaison Reports</b>	<b>a. City-Martinez</b>
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	Martinez shared an email from FG City Manager Jesse VanderZanden informing the mayor and city counselors of a directive from the City Attorney to discontinue using city resources to provide food and beverages to employees during official business meetings and events. This directive will result in a drastic reduction of SCC funding currently enjoyed through the redemption of cans and bottles at Bottle Drop. Further discussion of this issues is anticipated at future meetings.
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## **b. Chamber-Yakos-Absent**

No Report

## **c. Staff Update-Phillips**

- 1) The bond issue to fund a new police department facility did not pass. There will be another attempt inasmuch as the current facility is inadequate and unsuitable.
- 2) The 20-40 Visioning activities are wrapping up. There will be an information booth at the farmer's market for interested citizens. All are encouraged to stop by if in the vicinity.

## **6. Old Business**

### **a. Adult Delegation-Nowlin and Committee**

- 1) Delegate profiles have been sent to Nyuzen. Mayor Wenzl will stay with Nyuzen mayor Sasajima.
- 2) Schedules and itinerary have been finalized. The Tanabata activities will be with the delegates and their host families.
- 3) The delegates will meet again next week for final preparations for the trip. For the free day in Tokyo the some of the delegates will go to Tokyo Disneyland, and some will do sightseeing in the city.
- 4) The committee agreed on the woodwork piece by Uli Kirchler as the gift to the city of Nyuzen. Beechwood secured the piece which the artist had listed for \$375 for a generous discount price of \$150. The city needs an invoice for this purchase which should reflect the discount as a donation from the artist, thus enabling Mr. Kirchler to secure a tax deduction. Nowlin volunteered to transport the piece to Japan. Beechwood will secure the artist's description of the work, and pertinent details for the city of Nyuzen.

### **b. Student Delegation**

- 1) Nowlin has prepared online forms for the host family application, suggested activities for visiting student and adult delegations, and suggested activities for fund raising. One form per suggestion is required.
- 2) Host family applications can be made for future delegations. For host families background checks and home visits will be required. With respect to host accommodations, one person per bed, no blowup mattresses, and separate rooms.
- 3) Nowlin strongly encourages the committee members to submit suggestions for both suggested activities and fundraising ideas.

**7. New Business** | **August Meeting-Potluck**

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Our August meeting will be a potluck, tentatively set for August 27, 5-8 pm. K. and J. Anderson will check the availability of the clubhouse in their neighborhood and report back.

**8. Next Meeting** | Tuesday, July 16, 2025, 5:00 pm

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**9. Adjournment** | Meeting adjourned 5:13 pm