

Forest Grove/Nyuzen Sister Cities Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 29, 2025

Meeting Location: Zoom

Members Present:

Anderson, Kermit Secretary

Beechwood III, John

Nefedov, Larisa Vice Chair

Nowlin, Nicole Chair

Stenson, Doreen Treasurer

Absent: Anderson, Jackie

Guests: Lawlor, Aimee

Others:

Martinez, Karen Council Liaison

Phillips, Joyce Staff Liaison

Yakos, Claudia Chamber, Director

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by Nowlin.

2. Quorum Yes

3. Minutes

Minutes for the meetings of 09.15.25 were distributed to all committee members. Motion: moved by Yakos and seconded by Beechwood to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

4. Old Business **Student Delegation-Nowlin and Committee**

a. **Host Families**-Census for the Nyuzen delegation is 3 adults and 10 students. We have hosting confirmed for 2 adults and 5 students. We expect Mayor Wenzl to be following up with teachers and hopefully garner additional hosts.

b. **Activities**

- Thursday 10.23, Adults (8 am-2 pm. while students are in school). David Hill tour and wine tasting is confirmed for 11 am. We are still waiting to hear from Sake One. Yakos will contact Chaucer Foods for tour opportunities. Higher Taste food and manufacturing operation in Cornelius was mentioned as a possible tour as well.
- Thursday All-Nefedov and Phillips are seeking to arrange for tours of the Fire Station and Police facility respectively for Thursday afternoon.

- Friday 10.24, All will tour the Public Safety Training Center in the morning, followed by lunch at La Sierra Mexican restaurant, then a trip to Fren Hill Wetlands. Following the wetlands tour the time remaining the student will have a pumpkin decorating activity until hosts pick them up.

c. Welcome Dinner-

- Menu-Prime Time restaurant has the best price for the BBQ dinner. For pork and chicken in the quantities needed will cost \$300. It remains to arrange for a vegetarian option.
- Entertainment-At this point the Dancing Witches, High School Jazz Band, and Irish Dancers are possibilities.

d. **Gift to Nyuzen**-The SCC selected a fused glass art piece from Valley Art Gallery. The price for this piece is \$259, of which the City will provide \$150.

5. Finance | Treasurer-Stenson

- a. Balance \$4,372.53. (same as last month) Does not yet reflect expense reimbursements connected with the recent Adult Delegation to Nyuzen.
- b. Bottle Drop credit \$523.30 and cash \$436.08 (withdrawal of \$99.90 and deposited with Chamber)
Blackmun acct. credit \$134.47, cash \$112.06 (not updated from last meeting)
K. Anderson acct. credit \$132.71, cash \$110.59

6. Liaison Reports | a. Chamber-Yakos

- 1) The Chamber needs photos from our last delegation visit to Nyuzen for the website.
- 2) Thanks for the support at the Chamber table at the Corn Roast.
- 3) Yakos reports Rotary Club agrees to a \$1000 donation towards the student delegation.
- 4) There will be downtown trick or treating on Halloween and not the prior Saturday as last year. Tree Lighting is scheduled for the Friday after Thanksgiving at Washburne Hall at Pacific University.
- 5) Chamber website continues to request for donations to SCC, and hosts the application for SCC membership.

b. City Staff-Phillips

- 1) The Civics Academy is in full swing. One of the participants Aimee Lawlor has expressed interest in joining SCC.
- 2) Phillips underscored the urgency to secure host families for the upcoming visit.

c. City Council-Martinez

Martinez updated SCC on reports made to the City Council concerning full staffing at the Washington County Sheriff's Department, a report by the Summer Parks intern on her accomplishments including an update on work projects at Eastside Park, and a report by Public Arts Commission regarding the completion of a mural at Lincoln Park.

7. New Business | **New SCC Member-Aimee Lawlor**

Aimee Lawlor attended our Zoom meeting and has expressed interest in becoming a member of SCC. She learned of the SCC while attending the Forest Grove Civics Academy. She expressed intention to attend the next SCC meeting to be welcomed into SCC membership.

8. Next Meetings | **Friday, 10.17.25, 5:00 pm Zoom only.**

9. Adjournment | **Meeting adjourned 5:04 pm**