

ABILENE- OMITAMA SISTER CITY BOARD MINUTES FOR January 14, 2019

The Abilene Omitama sister city board meeting was called to order by Claire Anderson at 6:03 pm at the Abilene Public Library. The following board members were also in attendance: Corina Ryland, Scott Anderson, Andrea Taylor, Kevin Unruh, Audrey Corbett, Barb and Rick Johnson and Jerry Rankin and Marcus Rothchild, city liaison. Friends, Mary Zey, was absent.

Approval of Agenda: Andrea moved to approve the agenda and Barb seconded. All in favor.

Approval of December minutes: Andrea moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Rick. All in favor with following corrections: typo no l in Noibara Daiko not Diako misspelling. Rick asked that the memorial be advertised as Ellis and Bob Johnson. As not to be confused with other Johnsons.

Comments and correspondence:

Corina's AMS group received letters and videos from Hirome's students. Narumi received the Christmas card. Claire asked the board sign valentine cards for Omitama.

Sister City International: SCI sent an email to Jerry who forwarded it to Claire; they have a new CEO and wondered if we'd like a visit from them.

Financial report: Kevin shared that the following bills were paid: \$676.35 for drummers and \$76 for Jerry. International dues and the Christmas dinner will be billed in January.

Friends of sister city; Mary absent. In January the city approved Mary as a board member and Jerry went off the board so Jerry and Heather will co-chair the Friends committee and we will discuss and approve the switch next month.

New board members renewed: In addition to Mary Zey being approved, Audrey and Andrea renewed their positions on the board.

Japan Club: The meeting canceled last Friday, due to weather.

Applications: Hunter Monroe and his family approached Jerry and will put in an application. Mia Johnson's mother asked Andrea about applying, as well. Jerry wrote a story for the newspaper last month. After discussion, the board decided to open up and extend the application process. Applications are not due until Thursday, March 5th. March 7th will be a second interview. Saturday Feb 1st we will conduct interviews 10 -noon with our first 4 applicants at Abilene public library (check on Jordan room).

Claire will contact Chapman and Solomon schools and send applications.

April 10 is deadline for \$200 deposits for tickets. June 5th is final payment of \$1400.

We need at least 10 ticketed travelers.

First delegates meeting will be April 4th at 1pm on Saturday.

Salina January event: Mel said she would speak about the trip.

Claire will speak and Rick talk about Yoshi living in Abilene and meeting him again.

Barbara will dance yosakoi. The event will be held on Thursday, Jan 30th at 6:30 pm.

Claire will take some artifacts from the library: picture of the mayor who started it, helmet, plate and vinyl sign. The program will last about an hour.

Abilene February event: This will take place on the 29th at the high school. It will be from 2-4 pm. We'll have drummers, dancers, and Barb's doll display. We'll ask for donations to the Bob and Ellis Johnson Memorial that helps fund trips to Japan. Gretchen from Salina Arts Center said we could advertise at the Salina Arts Center. Jerry will ask his daughter, Elizabeth Rankin to make a poster and we will ask Country Mart; M and M and Lumber House to advertise on their signs.

The board will look for extra knick knacks to sell bazaar style. We'll have clothes from

Donna and Barb for visitors to try on and take pictures.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at Abilene Public Library at 6 pm. Scott moved we adjourn, and Andrea seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Secretary,

Corina Ryland