

# Edmonds Sister City Commission

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**Meeting Date:** November 25, 2012 – Meeting Minutes

Pos. 1 Michelle Van Tassell	Pos. 2 OPEN	Pos. 3 Yoshikata Inoue
Pos. 4 Marlene Friend	Pos. 5 Kay Vreeland	Pos. 6 Rita Bailey Ikeda
Pos. 7 Iyoko Okano	Pos. 8 Kody McConnell	Pos. 9 Joseph Fletcher
Pos. 10 Beth Fuhriman	Pos. 11 Jill Van Berkom	Pos. 12 OPEN

**Commissioners not in Attendance:** Van Berkom, McConnell

**Staff:** Carolyn LaFave

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm. Ray Olitt and Paul Anderson were recognized as guests and soon-to-be-inducted Commissioners. All in attendance were asked to introduce themselves.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted with the corrections having been received via email and previously added to the document.

**Treasurer's report:** A treasurer's report was emailed to the Commission members by Kody. Further discussion of the report will be held at a later date.

**Correspondence:** Iyoko read a response from Mr. Nagasaki regarding the issues raised at the Skype conference last month. The proposal to reduce the student exchange to every other year is acceptable, but there can be no further reduction in the frequency. They are also amenable to sending both middle school and high school students and will try to match our numbers in further exchanges. It was noted in the discussion that information about the Croatia program was not available.

## **Old business:**

### Adult Delegation Update

Michelle received great feedback and many suggestions for additional members to be considered for the delegation for next year. The list of names now contains between 150 and 200 entries. Some discussion ensued on how to proceed in contacting and/or inviting community members. Several suggestions were made to narrow down the list. One suggestion was to send an informational card promoting an informational meeting though the cost of postage proved to be a barrier. Carolyn suggested that we send an email from the city office expressing the invitation to the information meeting. Michelle will draft the letter and it is to be reviewed by a number of other Commissioners. Members agreed to put the email plan into action before December 15<sup>th</sup> for the first email. Additional reminder emails will follow. Agenda for the information night will be decided at the next meeting. Iyoko will contact Sankei for travel information.

### 2013 Student Delegation Decision

The Commission discussed whether or not to change the frequency of the student delegation program. This year's agenda is full with the adult delegation and the anniversary celebration. Concern was expressed about the loss of momentum that will occur if there is no student delegation. Carolyn suggested the avoidance of the term 'postpone' and promoted the claim that the next delegation is to occur in 2014. During the break there will be benefit in the extra time to recruit students, raise funds, have more pre-trip experiences and allow families time to save for the expense. A motion was made that the next student delegations occur in 2014 rather than 2013. This motion was carried by the Commission. Carolyn will notify Nagasaki-san of the decision.

### Student Representative

A student representative form was emailed by Jill. The Commissioners will review the document and submit any changes to Joseph and/Jill. The finalized version will be forwarded to Carolyn. Once the application is completed, Carolyn will send it to any high school contacts. This is to be completed by Wednesday (11/28) at 5pm.

### Pamphlet

While reviewing the pamphlet, of which printed copies were available, a number of needed changes were noted. Full discussion and revisions were tabled until the next meeting where it is hoped that Jill will be able to attend.

### Library Lobby/Senior Center Displays

Beth, Kay & Lyoko reviewed the materials in storage. They will be submitting a proposal to the library for a display in October 2013. Kay suggested staggering the display at the Senior Center in order to increase exposure time. Others argued that the best time for the displays would be during the adult delegation time. It was also suggested that we look into having a display at the Edmonds Historical Museum rather than the Senior Center.

### Doll Making Class

Marlene suggested postponing the class as she presently has too much on her plate.

### Mariners' Excursion

Decisions about this activity will be tabled until the next meeting though Marlene is suggesting that we forgo the next year as there is no student delegation and perhaps substitute another type of fundraiser.

### Quarterly e-Newsletter for Beacon Update

Carolyn mentioned that the Beacon update is a willing outlet for dispersing information. Michelle suggested that we strive to have something to send each month. Ideas came forth surrounding the many artists that have contributed items to the Commission that were used as gifts. The Commission decided to further discuss news ideas at the upcoming retreat. A motion was made to add a permanent agenda item titled 'Publicity'. This motion was carried by the Commission. Ray offered to invite Pat Ratliff (Editor of the *Edmonds Beacon*) to a meeting to discuss the nature of news contributions.

### **New Business:**

#### Retreat 2013

Yoshi and Michelle will brainstorm ideas for the retreat which will take place in January.

#### AET Recruit

The current AET will need to be replaced in Sept 2013. The contract length is 2 years with an optional 3<sup>rd</sup> year. The candidate must have a Bachelors' degree and should have experience teaching children. The AET recruit team will consist of Iyoko, Yoshi and Marlene.

### **Tabled:**

**Next Meeting:** December 17<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 9PM – Bring a Holiday Treat!

**Adjournment:** 8:57PM