

ABILENE- OMITAMA SISTER CITY BOARD MINUTES FOR March 13, 2024

The Abilene Omitama sister city board meeting was called to order by Claire Anderson at 6:02 pm at the Abilene Public Library, Jordan Room. The following board members were also in attendance: Cindy Whittington, Corina Ryland, Kevin Unruh, Kim Shafer and Andrea Taylor. Leann Johnson was present from the city. Absent were Audrey Corbett, Bill Marshall, Eric Anderson. Jerry Rankin (Japan club) and Ron Marsh were absent. Friends of sister city co-treasurer Heather Unruh was in attendance, as well.

Approval of Agenda: Andrea moved and Cindy seconded. All in favor.

Approval of minutes of February meeting: Kim moved and Kevin seconded. All in favor.

Public comments and correspondence:

News from Omitama: Both Corina and Claire got correspondence from Omitama saying they will send a different number of delegates but it seemed to come out the same. It looks like they now want to send 10 students and more adults. The Mayor plus 2 will be here from the 28th to 31st of July.

Correspondence: Claire sent an email to Meredith Sleichter. Claire will ask Mary Jean to speak with Nara people. She also sent an email to the Taiko group that performed 10 years ago at the Civic center about doing a performance. Claire will ask Barb to do Yosakoi. Leann suggested K- State swing dance club; Leann will contact them.

Friends of sister city: Heather reported on Sushi Day, April 20th;. It will take place from 3pm -5pm but we have the building from 2pm-6pm. No more than 15 people may sign up at this time. Heather will put it on the Facebook page. Claire talked to M and M tire about their sign and Audrey talked to Copeland; they will both put something up first of the month. After discussion, it was decided not to do signs because we should get 15 from Facebook. Corina and Kim are out of town. Cindy, Claire and Kevin will help set up.

Japan club: Jerry was absent; no report.

Financial report: Kevin reported Jerry was paid \$61.43 for sushi for Japan Club. Current balance: \$9938.57 Corina moved we accept Kevin's financial report. Andrea seconded. All in favor.

Guidelines for host families: Those present agreed the guidelines presented last month from previous hosting years for host families was still accurate. LeAnn will use them when she speaks on the radio.

Old business: Pulled out calendars and penciled in activities for the delegation. Claire will organize our plans on a spreadsheet for the next meeting.

Plaque: LeAnn will talk to the city facilities/ maintenance department about how to handle the plaque.

Banners: A digital image is used (take a jpeg or pdf.) We can get them in color.

Bylaws: Andrea moved we table the by-laws for another meeting when all are here. Cindy seconded. All in favor.

Host families continued: Kevin and Heather - adult and Clare- adult, Corina has a list of possible students started. Other suggestions: Megan Meneley, Lisa Kajowski Marcus Rothchild.

New Business:

Cindy moved and Corina seconded that the next meeting be moved April 17th, the third Wednesday. All in favor.

The next meeting is Monday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Abilene Public Library, Jordan Room. Corina made a motion to adjourn and Kim seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Corina Ryland, Secretary