

ABILENE-OMITAMA SISTER CITY BOARD MINUTES March 12, 2025

Call to Order: The Abilene-Omitama Sister City Board Meeting was called to order by Claire Anderson at 6:05PM at the Abilene Public Library. The following board members were also in attendance: Corina Ryland, Kim Shafer, Jennifer Hager, Jennie Hiatt, and Mary Montgomery. Absent were Ron Marsh (Abilene City Representative) and Heather Unruh (Friends of Sister City); as well as Audrey Corbett, Cindy Whittington, and Kevin Unruh.

Changes/Approval of Agenda: Kim moved, with the correction of December 2025 to February 2025 on the budget line, that we accept the agenda. Seconded by Jennie Hiatt. All in favor.

Approval of minutes of February 2025 meeting: Kim corrected that the financial report would have been from December 2024. Jennie moved and Kim seconded to accept the minutes with that correction. All in favor.

Public comments, correspondence:

Sister City International: Claire received information that we could still send someone to Washington DC. We are not interested.

News from Omitama: No official news.

Friends of Sister City: Heather was absent. No news.

Japan Club: Jerry Rankin was absent but sent a message that he met on February 25th with 30 4th and 5th graders and they will meet again on March 25th.

Financial report: Kim noticed that the budget says zero. She will call LeAnn. The financial report was tabled until next month.

Review delegate applications: Discussed interviews.

Neveah will be asked to reapply in two years and Jada dropped out so that puts us at 8 students, 3 board members and Kelly Mayden, Quentin's mom. We are still waiting to see if they have a second host family for Quentin and his mother. Corina will send out letters congratulating delegates and providing information.

Claire recommended meeting on a Sunday. Corina seconded.

We will schedule our first meeting with a parent on Sunday, March 30th at 4pm at the Episcopal church basement on Buckeye. We will enter from the back door. It looks like tickets are approximately \$1600; they'll need about \$100 for a passport and we recommend \$300 spending money for souvenirs and snacks in Japan. Discussed fundraising ideas:

Rada knives, Kansas Braids, Eisenhower Marathon, garage sale.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 6:00 PM at the Abilene Public Library, Jordan Room. Mary made a motion to adjourn, and Jennie seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Corina Ryland, Secretary