

ABILENE-OMITAMA SISTER CITY BOARD

November 10, 2020 6:00 pm

City Hall City Manager's Office

AGENDA for BOARD MEETING

- I. Call to order
- II. Changes to Agenda/Approval of agenda
- III. Approval of minutes October 13, 2020 meeting
- IV. Public comments, correspondence
  - A. News from Omitama
  - B.. Official Correspondence
- V. Financial Report
- VI. Unpaid bills
- VII. Friends of Sister City
- VII. Japan Club
- VIII. Board matters
  - A. Nominations for officers
  - B. Resignation of Rick and Barbara Johnson
  - C. Recruitment of new board members, Jeff Haaga application on file.
  - D. Zoom account through city
- IX. Old business
  - A. Japanese Language Lessons
  - B. Publicity: Facebook; articles in newspaper, City of Abilene website
- X. What next?
- XI. Adjournment--Next meeting on schedule is December 8, 6 pm. Location TBD.

ABILENE- OMITAMA SISTER CITY BOARD MINUTES FOR October 10, 2020

Barb Johnson, vice president, called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm at the City Hall. The following board members were also in attendance: Corina Ryland, Kevin Unruh, Rick Johnson, Audrey Corbett, and Mary Zey. Also in attendance were Heather Unruh and Jerry Rankin, Friends of sister city and and Marcus Rothchild, city liaison. Andrea Taylor and Bill Marshall were absent.

Approval of Agenda: Mary moved and Rick seconded to approve the agenda.

Approval of June minutes: Mary moved and Rick seconded to approve the minutes from June.

Public Comments and correspondence: We had a Zoom meeting in September with Omitama friends. There were approximately 30 people in attendance for this informal meeting. Thank you Mary for setting up the Zoom meeting. We will consider doing it again in November.

Two new board members were appointed by the commission Jerry Rankin and Bill Marshall.

Financial report: Kevin shared that sister city dues and the newspaper were paid. The city hasn't paid the Yosakoi and that bill will be resubmitted.

We still have \$9599.11. We will talk to the commission about using that money in 2021.

However, this is dependent on Covid and plans for next year.

Friends of sister city: Heather got a statement from the community foundation.

Heather will do an EIN number with the bank with a new account but doesn't want to be the only one listed on this account. Corina moved that because Jerry is now a board member again, that he ask Kim Shafer to partner with Heather on the banking. Audrey seconded. All in favor. Jerry will visit with Kim.

Board matters: City commission accepted the resignation of Claire and Scott Anderson due to illness. Jerry Rankin and Bill Marshall have been appointed to take their positions. Barb and Rick Johnson will be resigning effective the December meeting due to their move. We will continue to do monthly in person meetings following Covid guidelines unless things get worse. Marcus will look into getting a Zoom account through the city if things get bad and we can't meet in person.

Japan Club: Jerry will not be doing this with Eisenhower due to Covid.

Old business: Previously, Claire had the idea of doing a video message. It was decided to let it go and not pursue it at this time.

Japanese lessons: Naho is willing to do Japanese lessons. Barb will ask her how she wants to do it. An hour on Sunday evenings 4 to 5pm, informally, was suggested.

Barb will call Narumi, in Omitama, about 2021 thoughts. (At this point we are thinking nobody will be traveling either way.) and another zoom meeting in November.

Discussion about having articles in newspaper verses boosting Facebook and adding to the city page took place and it was decided to use a later meeting to focus on this topic.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at Abilene Public Library at 6 pm. Mary moved we adjourn and Audrey seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Secretary,

Corina Ryland