



Japanese Sister City Committee Minutes

September 11, 2024 6:00 PM

<https://teams.live.com/join/9340514050895?pwd=vw2IOl4Er0PfvjEu>

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

- a. Cassy, Katie, Dustin, Jeannae, Danijela, Kristy, Chad, Kim, Dr. Ken Mulliken (former exchange chaperone)

APPROVE PRIOR MINUTES

- a. Dustin motioned, Jeannae seconded
- b. All in favor with a show of hands

TRUNK OR TREAT @ PAUL HENSON

- a. We don't have enough participation for this one. It might benefit more to choose a Trunk or Treat in Independence.
 - b. If anyone comes across one in Independence, let the group know.
 - c. The high schools usually have a Trunk or Treat. Jeannae will look into scheduling.
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- 1. Donations accepted but not required. This is a marketing/recruiting opportunity. If yes, decide on donation amount (or none) and assign volunteers.
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VOTE ON GARDEN MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE.

- a. Dustin would like to move this item to talk about at the October meeting.

JAPAN FEST: VOLUNTEERS TO WORK, VOLUNTEERS TO PRICE, VOLUNTEERS TO TRANSPORT/SET-UP

- a. Japan Fest would like names of those who are volunteering.
- b. Sales, pricing, and transportation/set-up are the jobs that need to be filled.
- c. October 5th, 10am - 7pm, Johnson County Community College
- d. Dustin said we have dolls from Higashimurayama (75-100)
- e. Cassy can work all day and Chad can work part of the day (first half preferably). Kristy can work the second half of the day. Jeannae will be escorting kids from Glendale's Japanese Club along with the school Principal.
- f. Kristy will provide Venmo info (wifi wasn't reliable last year).
- g. Transport: Cassy, Danijela, and Jeannae.
- h. Pricing: Dustin, Jeannae, and Danijela.

RECRUITMENT PLANNING UPDATE FROM CHAD AND DUSTIN (STUDENT, CHAPERONE, AND HOST FAMILY.)

- a. Dustin has developed a flier to advertise the 2025 Exchange.
 - i. The flier covers "Go to Japan" and "Be a Host Family"
 - ii. Proposes two info sessions at an Independence Library.
 - 1. Open to the public
 - 2. No need to RSVP
 - iii. The flier includes a QR code that links to our website.
 - iv. Dustin will send the flier to the City for promotion as well. Kim will put Dustin into contact with a representative from the City to let him know what format they prefer.
- b. Chad is working on a video to advertise the exchange
 - i. Dustin will upload the video to our website and social media sites.
 - ii. Two versions of the video will be produced; one for the exchange and one for hosting a student
- c. Promotion sites
 - i. Independence School District
 - 1. Truman, Chrisman, and Van Horn
 - 2. Try to recruit/ have an info table at the Truman/Chrisman football game.
 - ii. Fort Osage School District
 - iii. Metropolitan Community College

- d. Interviews should start in November with a final decision made in December.
 - i. Culture classes will start in January
- e. Chaperone
 - i. Cassy will contact Higashimurayama to find out if they will require two chaperones this year.
 - ii. A chaperone application is up on the website.
 - iii. Chad is going to update the expectations and procedures for chaperones from the past.
- f. The City of Independence website needs to be updated with the correct links
 - i. <https://www.independencemo.gov/government/city-departments/boards-and-commissions/current-boards-and-commissions/japanese-sister-city-committee>
- g. Our website needs to be updated with the new applications and new photos
 - i. Dustin is working on this item
 - ii. <https://www.indepmojscc.com/>

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

- a. Dr. Ken Mulliken introduction
 - i. Recently moved back to Independence
 - ii. 1982 Exchange Student with JSCC and 2012 Chaperone with JSCC
 - 1. He created documents about the exchange as student and as chaperone and will share with Cassy.

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

- a. Garden Maintenance Update

ADJOURNMENT

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58
- b. Danijela moved to adjourn, Dustin seconded.
- a. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 9, 2024**