



# INDEPENDENCE ★ MISSOURI ★

A GREAT AMERICAN STORY

## Japanese Sister City Committee Minutes

April 9, 2026 6:00 PM

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_ZjknNjc0YzYtYWQ0MC00MzUyLTg1ZGQtMjBjNDU3NWM3ODVh%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22862de864-c0f2-4801-a187-836f98f56db0%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2278cf48fe-35f9-4ea0-8ba2-d6dacefee12f%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZjknNjc0YzYtYWQ0MC00MzUyLTg1ZGQtMjBjNDU3NWM3ODVh%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22862de864-c0f2-4801-a187-836f98f56db0%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2278cf48fe-35f9-4ea0-8ba2-d6dacefee12f%22%7d)

Meeting ID: 286 074 945 888 9

Passcode: D8Ne2BM6

### I. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

#### Call to Order / Roll Call

Meeting called to order.

**Members Present:** Dustin, Danijela, Jeannae, Chad, Kim, Cassy

### II. APPROVE PRIOR MINUTES

#### Approval of Previous Minutes

- Jeannae motion to approve
- Cassy second
- All approved

### III. AMERICAN STUDENT EXCHANGE UPDATES

#### American Student Exchange Updates

- Student with allergy will not be going

- Danijela and 9 students (10) are needed for group ticket
- Backup delegate student cannot go.
- After reviewing the cost timeline in finding another delegate, Danijela suggests we keep the group to 10 instead of 11.
- Ticket cost to vote on: \$2,033 per person
  - 1883 ticket cost
  - 50 fee
  - 100 base insurance (at most)
    - Does not include cancel for any reason as that is quite a bit more expensive
- Cassy move to approve tickets + base plan is for \$20,333
  - Jeannae seconds
  - All approved
- Refund for Jacob
  - Jeannae motion to refund to Jacob minus \$200 deposit and \$75 class fee.
  - Danijela second

All approved

#### **Travel Paperwork / Legal Review**

- No updates yet from the City legal department.
- Laura will need to schedule time to notarize student paperwork once the documents are finalized.

#### **IV. HOST FAMILY RECRUITING UPDATES**

##### **Host Family Recruitment**

- Three home visits still need to be completed.
- Committee members will need to visit prospective host families.

##### **Action Items**

- Dustin will reach out to the families and JSCC committee members to coordinate home visits and interviews.
- Laura is available to host if needed.

- Dustin will speak with his dad regarding the possibility of hosting.
- Dustin will reach out to the alumni network to see who might be available to host.
- **Three additional host families still need to be confirmed.**

## **V. JAPANESE MARKET DAY**

### **Japanese Market Day**

- Tentatively planned for **the third week of April.**
- Final date and details are still pending.

### **Notes**

- Students and Patric will provide further planning details.
- Dustin can reach out to Three Trails Taiko regarding a drum performance once the date and schedule are finalized.

## **VI. 501C3 DISCUSSION AND PLANNING**

### **501(c)(3) Status**

- No updates at this time.
- The committee is still awaiting a response from the IRS.

## **VII. SUB-COMMITTEE DETAILS**

### **Sub-Committee Structure**

Danijela and Dustin will assign sub-committee roles with monthly responsibilities

### **A. DANIJELA AND DUSTIN WILL MAKE SUB-COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS WITH MONTHLY RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **B. YOUTH CLUB**

#### **Youth Club Discussion**

- Discussion regarding a potential Youth Club to increase student engagement.

- One student, Laura, who proposed the Japanese Market Day idea, has expressed interest in participating.

**1. WOULD THIS HELP WITH STUDENT ENGAGEMENT?**

**2. ONE STUDENT, LAURA, WHO PRESENTED THE IDEA OF THE JAPANESE MARKET DAY, WANTS TO JOIN.**

**VIII. ADJOURN**

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026**

*Next meeting: Wednesday, May 13, 2026.*