

Phoenix Sister Cities
Himeji Minutes
April 3, 2018

Present:

Pamela Godsil – Committee Acting Co-Chair
Jeremy Crews - Committee Acting Co-Chair
Rita Marko – Phoenix Sister Cities, CEO
Masako Takiguchi
Akiko Hennessy
Kate Ross
Molly Currey
Gwen Currey
Jeff Currey
Caren Robinson
Lance Hoiby

Nolan Hoiby
Hunter McCormick
Kari McCormick
Andrew Ahearne
Joshua McDonald
Diana Tran
Adam Holland
Megan Marples
Rachel Stapholt
Nicole Collins
Reiko Reavis

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:36 pm by P. Godsil.

II. Chair Remarks & Introductions

P. Godsil welcomed all present and introductions were made. The Youth Ambassadors and teachers in the Teach Abroad program were welcomed.

III. Approval of March 6, 2018, Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes by C. Robinson. Second by K. Ross. Minutes approved unanimously.

IV. February 2018 Financial Summary

P. Godsil reviewed the February 2018 Financial Summary. M. Takiguchi asked about the proceeds from the Committee's booth at the Matsuri Festival. R. Marko explained the proceeds will be reported on the March 2018 summary.

V. Committee Events & Projects

A. Youth Ambassador Exchange Program Update

The Youth Ambassadors reported that they have attended Academy Session I and that they have begun the letter writing campaign. R. Marko reported that approximately \$9,000 has been raised thus far to support the summer hosting calendar.

B. Matsuri Festival (February 24-25, 2018)

M. Takiguchi noted that next year the festival will celebrate its 35th anniversary. She thanked the Youth Ambassadors for their support and emphasized the importance of their help, especially on Friday during set up. P. Godsil explained that the proceeds from the Committee's booth support Committee activities, such as hosting a dinner for the Himeji gardeners. She also noted that the Committee provides parking and meal reimbursement for event volunteers.

C. Himeji Garden Association Group

R. Reavis thanked the Committee for their support of the Himeji Gardeners (by hosting a dinner for them).

The Committee discussed restaurant arrangements and possible gifts to welcome the gardeners. The Committee had previously authorized \$1,000 for the dinner; additional funds are necessary to pay for dinner and two drinks each for the gardeners, their drives, their translators and Committee members who wish to attend.

The Committee also discussed providing a small gift to each person in attendance at the dinner. P. Godsil volunteered some gift bags she has. K. McCormick volunteered to pick up chocolates (shaped like boots, etc.) at Cerretta's Chocolates for the bags. P. Godsil asked about any Phoenix Sister Cities logo items. R. Marko volunteered to check the stock of cellphone cardholders with the Sister Cities logo and supply 33 if available.

L. Hoiby made a motion to authorize up to an additional \$500 to host a dinner for the Himeji Garden Association at Forno 301 on April 9, 2018, and to authorize the expenditure of up to \$300 for gift bags for all in attendance. H. McCormick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

R. Reavis noted the Japanese Friendship Garden will host a farewell dinner for the Himeji Garden Association Group on April 10, 2018.

D. Himeji Committee to Host Welcome Dinner for YAEP Exchange Students at the Red Wok

Item continued.

VI. Membership Special with Japanese Friendship Garden and Himeji Committee

Item continued.

VII. PSC Announcements & Upcoming Events (Reports/Discussion)

R. Marko reminded members of the upcoming Mayor's International event celebrating Ennis, Ireland, on April 26, 2018, 6-8:30 p.m. Tickets for the event as well as drawing tickets may be obtained directly from Rita or purchased online. She also announced the Taipei Committee is hosting a Taiwan Folk Performance on Friday, May 18, 2018, at 6 p.m. in the Herrera Performing Arts Center.

Tickets are \$10 per person and may be obtained from Rita, Rick Gerrard or Taipei Committee members.

VIII. In-Kind & Volunteer Hours

P. Godsil reminded members of the importance of logging accurate hours.

IX. Next Meeting: May 1, 2018, 5:30 p.m. at the Winship House.

XI. Adjourn

P. Godsil adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Rita Marko

DRAFT