

LODI SISTER CITY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting , January 24, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: President Bill Hinkle called the meeting to official order at 6:05 p.m. JAAL Hall Board Room.

PRESENT: President Bill Hinkle, Dr. Peter Hetzner, Dr. Ron & Michiko Oye, Lynn Benbrook, Julie Myrah, Hugh Metcalf, Kenney Okumura, and Jeanne Stoller.
Guests: Ms. Jacklyn Schuchardt; Mr. Shak Khan, Council Member, District 4.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 25, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved as read. Motion moved by Lynn Benbrook, and seconded by Pete Hetzner.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer, Jeanne Stoller reviewed the Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2022. The beginning balance on hand as of October 25, 2022 was \$20,258.19 with an ending balance of \$19,364.27 on December 31, 2022 was accepted as read and filed for audit. Motion moved by Hugh Metcalf, seconded by Michiko Oye.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (1) The 60th Sandhill Crane Sculpture is ready to be shipped to the City of Kofu, Japan. It was stated that the U.S. Post Office cost was \$82.00 and UPS was \$490. A motion was moved by Lynn Benbrook to utilize the Post Office for shipping and Kenney Okumura seconded. The motion was approved. (2) Kofu City representatives sent an email expressing concern with regard to the recent wind and rain storm that struck Lodi. (3) Lodi Sister City Street Signs remain on hold. (4) Lodi Lake Japanese Garden Project – Ron Oye stated that we need to develop a master plan and that he met someone who may be able to assist with the development of the plan. (5) Julie Myrah gave a power point presentation sent by the Kofu Pen Pal members featuring three student's presentations. Julie will contact Tokay High School teacher, Mr. Joshua Sitkin, in order to develop a similar presentation for Kofu.

NEW BUSINESS: The Kairyudo Company was presented in which Ryan Distaso from Kofu, Japan contacted the Committee and presented business opportunities with the City of Lodi in terms of providing Japanese sake and or other Kofu products to local businesses in Lodi. It was recommended that he contact Visit Lodi, Michael David Winery, and the Chamber of Commerce.

(1) The Sister City Events Calendar, Membership Roster, Officers & Board Members, and Annual Membership Renewal forms were presented following the up-dated email distribution of the forms. The Events Calendar was reviewed thru July. The Sister City Polo Shirts were observed and discussed. It was decided to look into a new style shirt using the 50th Anniversary shirt's material with burgundy color. (2) The Annual Crab Feed to be held on Saturday, March 11th was covered in detail. Tickets are \$65 this year.

The Committee will participate as a group on the raffle prizes. A Crab Feed meeting will be held in February with distribution of the tickets. (3) The visit by the Lodi Italy representative, Mr. Riccardo Viaggi, on November 19, 2022 was discussed with the intent to renew our partnership with Lodi. (4) Payment of the 2023 Sister Cities International dues was approved, it was moved by Jeanne Stoller and seconded by Lynn Benbrook.

DISCUSSION OF ITEMS OF MUTUAL CONCERN: (1)The October 2022 California - Japan Sister Cities Network Issue, was presented to the Committee. It featured the “Lodi & Kofu Celebrate 60 Years of Friendship” news article and picture of the Lord Takeda Shingen crystal figurine describing our 60th Anniversary. (2) Councilman Shak Khan attended the Board Meeting to state that he wanted the City of Attock, Pakistan to have a sister city friendship relationship with Lodi. He was going to look into this and the gifts and grants for the sister city program.

The next Sister City Board Meeting will be Tuesday, March 28, 2023.
There being no further business, the meeting was officially adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanne Stoller, Interim Secretary