

Richmond-Shimada Friendship Commission

Wednesday, July 6th, 2022

6:00 PM

---(Via Zoom Call)---

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

(Highlighted Yellow or checked Names Attended, Green highlighted indicates the commissioner is on hiatus until return to in-person meetings)

- Evan Sirchuk, Chair
- Valerie Snider, Secretary
- Maryann Maslan, Commissioner
- Jamie Brown, Commissioner
- Trina Jackson-Lincoln, Staff Liaison
- Robyn Rickansrud, Commissioner
- Arianna Rodriguez, Commissioner
- Marilyn Leon Lee (former commissioner)
- Yas Aoki, Commissioner
- Esther Takeuchi, Commissioner
- Zelda Holland, Commissioner

2. Reading and approval of minute Motioned by Evan and seconded by Valerie. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Commissioner Reports

- Arianna mentioned that she went to an Anime Festival in LA
- Evan reported that Takashe inquired about having a virtual exchange among students which is in alignment with the Richmond's commission youth movie night exchange idea.

4. Input on Agenda

Chair Sirchuk received an email from Takashi Ushio introducing Mr. Takuya Sugiyama to Richmond regarding an idea to discuss a potential high school basketball exchange. The chair asked the commissioners if there is interest among the commissioners to explore this idea and a volunteer to take the lead. Commissioner Snider agreed to reviewing the WCCUSD website for the head of athletics to inquire of interest.

5. Important Business

- December Adult Delegation

- i. No Updates yet
 - ii. Takashi proposed having a zoom call.
- o Any update from the Japan side about movie night?
 - i. Past Notes: [Structure - New Virtual Student Exchange](#)
- o Fiscal Sponsor Update
 - i. Update from Trina about donation page
 - ii. 1st draft of donation page text: [Text For Giving Page \(Donations\) v001](#)

Discussion: Trina will contact RCF to get potential dates to meet to discuss the page.

- o Obi Festival in October
 - i. We received an invitation from Mayor Someya: [Invitation From Japan to Obi Maturi 2022 - \(大祭\) ほ11①1招待状 \(リッチモンド市長宛\) 日本文.pdf](#)
 - ii. Oct 7 is Welcome Party;
 - iii. The festival is Oct 8, 9, 10. Interested in going,
 1. pending quarantine not required: Valerie, Jamie, Ariana (Pending school schedule info in July).
 2. Perhaps mayor & city council?
 3. Trina will follow-up in asking if council members are interested
 - iv. Travel to Japan seems more likely than ever to open
 1. This is the page to watch: https://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/short/novisa.html
 2. Probably a good Idea to book airfare / hotels now

Discussion: The commissioners may be able to travel to Shimada on Cultural visas. The commissioners would like to know if they will be able to travel freely throughout the country.

Liaison Jackson-Lincoln will follow-up with the mayor and councilmembers on their interest in attending.

Commissioner Brown will contact Shimada officials to request assistance with obtaining a cultural activities visa and the parameters.

6. Good of the Order/Adjournment

Important Dates:

Adult Delegation from Shimada visit Richmond - December 4th (Sunday) -> December 6th (Tuesday)