

STILLWATER SISTER CITIES COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 28, 2024

1. Call to Order – Cindy Petree called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

Members Present: Cindy Petree, Judy Nelson, Jacie Gray, Matt Payne, Dale Durham, Linda Ely, Becky Irby, John Mills

Members Absent: Bob Burk

2. Introduction of Guests:
Nathan Horton, OSU

3. Approval of minutes – February 22, 2024

Matt Payne made a motion to approve the minutes. John Mills seconded the motion. All votes yes.

4. Items for Discussion/Possible Action

- a) OSU Global Studies – Jim Shideler

Jim Shideler provided an email update on International Student enrollment at Oklahoma State University. Jim also provided a flier promoting Cultural Night, March 30, 2024 at the Seretean Center at 7pm. Tickets are \$10.

- b) CLIC, English Department, Oklahoma State University – Ho'omana (Nathan) Horton

Nathan Horton reported the CLIC program is working on a reciprocating 3 student exchange with Shinshu University in Nagano and a potential virtual exchange with partnering universities in Japan. He will provide more details as plans are finalized.

- c) OSU Japanese Student Association/Japanese Club – Jacie Gray

Jacie Gray reminded the Council about the first-ever Japanese/English Speech Contest. They will speak in Japanese from written work in English. This will be held on April 2 from 5-8:30pm at the Student Union Starlight Terrace on the 4th floor. Only OSU students will be participating. There will be an opening ceremony and the Kantai Taiko Drum group from Norman will perform.

Jacie also reported that she received full funding for the Oral History Project of OK, May 27 – Aug. 1, 2024. Samuel Zeid, Coordinator for International Relations in Kameoka, is assisting Jacie with contacts in Kameoka and scheduling interviews. Her oral history interview with the Kameoka Mayor is June 25.

There was discussion regarding hosting the OSU Japanese Club students for a potluck in April. Matt Payne made a motion to cancel the

April 25, 2024 meeting and host the potluck at the Stillwater Community Center on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. Potluck will begin at 5pm and short meeting to follow at 6:30pm. Judy Nelson seconded the motion. All votes yes.

- d) Discussion, planning, and possible action regarding Sister Cities Council participation in the upcoming student exchange program between Stillwater Middle School and Kameoka, Japan.

Cindy Petree reported the selection committee for the Middle School Exchange interviewed 15 students and selected 4 boys and 3 girls who will travel to Kameoka in the fall. There is an informational meeting with the students and parents on March 28 at 7pm. The Middle School Exchange coordinator will regularly meet with the students between now and the end of school to prepare for this visit. The Middle School is working on ideas for fundraising, including grant applications. They are considering "Adopt a Delegate". Cindy will provide information when details are finalized.

- 5. Council/staff announcements of items of interest to the Council.

In loving memory, we honor Sylvia Duncan, who was a charter member of the Sister Cities Council and an advocate and mentor for international families. We all miss her dearly.

- 6. Adjourn- John Mills made a motion to adjourn. Matt Payne seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.