

Stillwater Sister Cities Council Minutes  
October 23, 2025

Stillwater Community Center, Room 100  
315 W. 8th  
5:00pm

Members Present: Cindy Petree, Linda Ely, Matt Payne, Dale Durham, Becky Irby, Judy Nelson, John Mills, Nathan Horton 5:08pm.

Not present: Debbie Dawson, Bob Burk

1. Call to Order

**Meeting called to order at 5:04 pm.**

2. Introduction of Guests

**Anna Bosma – OSU Student  
John Martin - OSU Japanese Club  
Christopher Jarrell – Stillwater Medical Center  
Jim Shideler – OSU Global Studies**

**Cindy Petree briefly explained to guests the mission of Sister Cities Council and related recent exchange visits.**

3. Approval of minutes –April 24, 2025

**Motion to accept made by Becky Irby, seconded by Matt Payne. All votes yes.**

4. Discussion/Possible Action

a) Approve Stillwater Sister Cities Council 2026 regular meeting schedule.

**The schedule was distributed. No action was taken.**

b) OSU Global Studies – Jim Shideler

**Jim Shideler reported there would be an International Bazar in November in the We Watkins Center. He discussed global VISA issues with fewer hours available for interviews. Oklahoma State University International student enrollment has shown growth since COVID. The top five countries with students on campus are, India, China, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Kuwait. It has been said that OSU has more students from Nepal than any university in the U.S. OSU is encouraging international enrollment and hope to increase those attending. Our international students make a significant economic impact in our state.**

c) CLIC, English Department, Oklahoma State University – Ho’omana (Nathan) Horton

**Nathan Horton mentioned an OSU student exchange this summer with Shinshu University in Japan with more details to follow.**

d) OSU Japanese Student Association/Japanese Club

**John Martin expressed interest in the JSA working with the Council on the 40<sup>th</sup> celebration. There was discussion regarding establishing an official council member / liaison position from JSA. Anna and John are both applying for JET positions in Japan.**

e) Discussion, planning, and possible action regarding the Stillwater Sister Cities 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary between Stillwater, OK and Kameoka, Japan.

**The Council continues to discuss additional activities to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our sister city relationship. Ideas suggested include an Open House at Community Center, News Press articles, Perkins Journal, Perkins Road video screen, Stillwater Medical Center, Signage, Utility Bills, Payne County, CREC, Kameoka Trail Fun Run.**

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

**Matt Payne has had contact with Stillwater High School Superintendent Tyler Bridges, who indicated interest in Sister Cities continued educational opportunities.**

6. Adjourn

**Motion by John Mills, seconded by Matt Payne. All votes yes. Meeting adjourned at 6pm.**