

Richmond-Shimada Friendship Commission
Wednesday, February 5, 2019
6:00 p.m. Shimada Room
440 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond CA

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm.

Commissioners Present: Evan Sirchuk, Zelda Holland, Esther Takeuchi, Yas Aoki, Josh Miklich, Robyn Rickansrud, and Valerie Snider.

Guests: Angela Anthony, Forest Borie, Helen Chen, Antonio, and Jamie Brown

2. Reading and approval of minutes

Valerie Snider motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Zelda Holland; approved unanimously

3. Input on Agenda

Ito Ikuko (artist), added to "March schedule" item on the agenda

4. Commissioner Reports

No reports

5. Important Business

- Commission Elections

- Final call for applicants

- a) Evan Sirchuk nominated for Chairperson by Valerie Snider; Esther Takeuchi seconded; vote was unanimous. (Marilyn Lee Leon has termed out as co-chair.)

- b) Valerie Snider nominated for Treasurer/Secretary by Esther Takeuchi; seconded by Zelda Holland; vote was unanimous.

- Results US Ambassador Interviews
 - Teacher Chosen

2 teachers were interviewed; Forest Borie was chosen
 - Students Chosen: There were 8 applicants; phone interviews were very successful. The in person interviewers were Evan Sirchuk, Yas Aoki, Margaret Aoki, Marilyn Lee Leong and Maryann Jacobson. Three students were chosen, all from El Cerrito HS: Malory Dowling, Marisol, and Jazmin. The 4th student will be either Olivia or Reyna (the interviewers were undecided between these two applicants). Commission members will take a second look at the two applications and offer an opinion.
 - Vote to approve

The commission will do this at the next meeting after the decision about the “tie” is resolved.
 - Fundraising Needs
 - Reach out to Councilmember Demnlus Johnson for fundraising opportunities.
 - Thank you to Angela and Helen for helping us streamline the application process.
 - Phone screening interviews were a great idea.

- March schedule for Shimada visitors. Marilyn is keeping track of the host families list - we have enough hosts. The ambassadors will be 6 girls, 2 boys, and 1 teacher.
 - Fill out the calendar Ikuko Ito, artist at the Richmond Art Center; bowling with Esther; Forest will contact Richmond Fire Dept. Regarding the Welcome Party and Sayonara Party: Esther will check with the Richmond Senior Center

- Contact Schools Lisa Weaver at Washington Elementary School is our contact; Angela is our Hercules MS contact and she will reach out to Richmond HS; Forest will contact Richmond Fire Dept.

■ Link to contact sheet

- 2020 Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival Grand Parade participation. **Trina Jackson has the Shimada banner. Festival date on which we will walk is Sunday, April 19.**
- Next steps for Richmond and Shimada Business Connections **This was tabled, as Maryann Jacobson was absent.**
 - When is the next chamber of commerce meeting?
 - Perhaps we can make an appeal since we have a clear need for fundraising to subsidise upcoming students.

6. Good of the Order/Adjournment **meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm**