

Richmond-Shimada Friendship Commission

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

MINUTES

- I) Call to Order - 7:14pm
 - a. Evan, Marilyn, Yas, Valerie, Josh and Trina
- II) Reading and approval of minutes – reviewed and approved as written (Valerie and Yas)
- III) Input on Agenda
 - a. Designate a quorum – the commission votes to set five as a quorum because there are eight members (Valerie and Yas)
 - b. Delegation to Shimada for the Obi Festival in October, 2019
 - i. Potential group other than commissioners and city officials
 - ii. Cost approximately \$2,000-\$2,500
 - iii. Yas, Evan, Valerie, Marilyn, Trina and possibly CM Eduardo Martinez
- IV) Commissioner Reports – no reports
- V) Important Business
 - a. Shimada Commission Elections
 - i. Steve Pinto does not want to continue as a co-chair
 - ii. Will hold off on other officer positions until next meeting
 - iii. Valerie will consider being secretary
 - iv. Evan and Marilyn will serve as co-chairs
 - b. Report on California-Japan Sister Cities Network Meeting
 - i. Check on business lists from Trina Jackson – List provided by the business license division: Should review the categories to decide which businesses could be potential prospects for business connections. Trina suggested contacting Shimada to inquire about what types of businesses do they recommend reaching out to. The Commission feels the city should be promoted.
 - ii. Rotary connections
 - iii. Richmond Chamber of Commerce
 - c. 2019 Summer Ambassador Application
 - i. Student apps due on Dec 15th – no apps received to-date, only inquiries
 - ii. Teacher/chaperone apps – no apps, only inquiries to date
 - d. Japanese Student visit in March
 - i. Check-in on Host family status
 - ii. Marilyn suggested looking for a host family for Takeo, who hosts Richmond ambassadors often in Shimada. He will travel with the Shimada ambassadors for a few days: 3/21 through 3/26. Valerie may be able to host him.
 - iii. The commission discussed the school visits for the Shimada ambassadors. Marilyn stated the visits should be well prepared. Evan stated the commission could also incorporate more community interactions, such as the tai chi class at the senior center and the weaving class at The Art Center. It is suggested that the SF visits be consolidated to one day – possibly the day that the ambassadors stay in SF on the last day. Discussion will be continued at next meeting.