

Richmond-Shimada Friendship Commission

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

MINUTES

- I) Call to Order

- II) Reading and approval of minutes
 - a. Minutes approved by Esther Takeuchi and Valerie Snider

- III) Input on Agenda
 - a. No input given by commissioners

- IV) Commissioner Reports
 - a. No reports

- V) Important Business

1. JACL College Scholarship

- [Japanese-American Citizens League](#)
 - i. National Organization
- Students can join for \$17 and be eligible for college scholarships.
- Esther is the point of contact.

2. Report on California-Japan Sister Cities Network Meeting

- Meeting put on by the [CJSCN](#) and [Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco](#)
- CJSCN provides support to the sister city and friendship city relationships between California and Japan to nurture and

cultivate long-lasting international relationships. Through its activities of enhancing and strengthening these relationships, CJSCN will promote peace and prosperity.

- i. <https://www.caljapansistercities.org/>
 - ii. CJSCN learned about the needs of different sister cities in California
 1. Succession of leadership
 2. Funding sources, lack of city support
 3. Not being connected with other sister cities
 - iii. CJSCN should be providing resources based on these needs.
 1. List of California sister cities and other related organizations:
<https://www.caljapansistercities.org/resources>
- Should we consider expanding business and cultural connections between Richmond and Shimada?
- i. Re-expand back into programs beyond student exchange.
 - ii. Exchange of crafts people and artists.
 - iii. Build business connections
 - iv. Find community sponsors
- Considering the collection of business list from Richmond and Shimada.
- i. Consider possible role of the commission as a hub between businesses in Richmond and Shimada
 - ii. Becoming a hub between businesses in Shimada and Richmond could be a possible funding source.
 1. Allow us to actually provide a value to potential sponsors.
 - iii. **The first step is generating a business list from both cities, then cross-referencing and seeing if there are potential connections.**

1. We should also consider contacting the Richmond Chamber of Commerce.

3. 2019 Summer Ambassador Applications

- Applications are Due on December 15th
- How are we doing on teacher applicants

4. Japanese Student visit in March

- Check-in on Host family status
 - i. Marilyn is out of town so we will check back on this.
- Brainstorming itinerary ideas
 - i. Emphasizing locations where people to people connections are possible, less touristy locations.**
 - ii. New Ferry to San Francisco
 - iii. RYSE Center
 - iv. Police activities League
 - v. Richmond fire
 - vi. Brooks Island
 - vii. NIAD
 - viii. Portumex
 - ix. East Bay bikes
 - x. Richmond rides
 - xi. JSA activities
 - xii. Washington Elementary
 - xiii. Kennedy High
 - xiv. Richmond High School
 - xv. Tai Chi at the senior center
 - xvi. Miller Knox Park
 - xvii. The model train museum
 - xviii. makerspaces in Richmond
 - xix. Chevron and the Rod and Gun Club picnic.
 - xx. UC Berkeley campus.

- xxi. Temescal Neighborhood In Oakland
- Discuss possibility of adding another adult member

VI) Good of the Order/Adjournment

Useful Information:

The next group of Japanese ambassadors.

- March 21st until March 31st.
- 10 days total
 - We are not sure which day they will be staying in the hotel
- One or two adults and 8 students.

The next group of American ambassadors.

- Applications due December 15th
- Must be delivered to Marilyn's house:
 - Marilyn Lee
 - 2626 Tuller Ave.
 - El Cerrito, CA 94530