



SISTER CITIES PROGRAM

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, April 8, 2024

12:00pm – Trinity UMC

- I. Welcome
 - a. Roll Call:
 - i. Present: Victoria White, Becky Simpson, Austin Fesmire, Deb Wallace, Lindsey Ferguson, Ersal Henry, and Betty Ruleman
 - ii. Absent: Steve Sherlin
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Motion was made by Lindsey Ferguson, seconded by Deb Wallace, for the approval of minutes of the March 19, 2024 meeting.
Motion carried
- III. New Business
 - a. Update on the visiting CG students this coming summer – Ersal Henry submitted a formal funding request for the CG program, in addition to the \$1200 annually granted from the Board. The Board discussed the need to push TWU to assist in funding the program and suggested matching funds that TWU will contribute as a goal. If TWU will reduce housing to \$15/student/night, the Board will pay the “Athens” related costs.
 - i. Motion was made by Ersal Henry, seconded by Betty Ruleman, for a \$3700 donation be made to the CG program.
Motion Carried
 - b. AAPI at Athens City Intermediate School on April 29th AND Tribe Night at MCHS – The JOI coordinator plans for ACIS mochi pounding, calligraphy, origami, and will be bringing volunteers from Knoxville and Denso.
 - c. Request for funding for ACIS Japanese activity night for JOI Coordinator – Tribe Night needs literature handouts and table banner. Deb Wallace said the literature could be printed at the City and the Board decided to use the existing banner.
 - i. Motion was made by Lindsey Ferguson, seconded by Becky Simpson, to use \$500 for any materials needed for the outreach at the schools.
Motion Carried
 - d. Discussion of which ‘giveaway’ items to order for Tribe Night and if we want to create flyers, etc., vote on funding – Deb Wallace offered to give the extra Gold City lapel pins to use. The Board decided to have shirts made for everyone to wear at events; Ersal Henry will design the shirts and Angela Robbins will vinyl them.

- i. Motion was made by Lindsey Ferguson, seconded by Betty Ruleman, to reimburse Ersu Henry the cost of purchasing the shirts.
Motion carried

IV. The meeting adjourned

Approved:

Betty Ruleman, Secretary

Date