



SISTER CITIES PROGRAM

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tuesday, July 8, 2026

12:00pm – City Hall

- I. Welcome
 - a. Roll Call:
 - i. Present: Betty Ruleman, Anna Barrios, Bridget Roberts, Joe Barnett and Lindsey Ferguson
 - ii. Absent: Larry Eaton, Becky Simpson, Donna Ballew, and Austin Fesmire
 - iii. Guests: Victoria White and Simon Rhodes
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Motion was made by Lindsey Ferguson, seconded by Joe Barnett, for the approval of the June 16, 2026 minutes.
Motion carried
- III. New Business
 - a. Planning for 2026 Chinzei Gakuin Visit and Fundraising – Board discussed the planned activities and funds still needed for the students visit Dollywood. Joe confirmed the pizza dinner venue behind Pie Hound. The City Hall visit and lunch will be on July 22.
 - b. Planning for 2026 Isahaya City Officials Visit (October 18-22) – Board discussed funds will be needed for several meals, gasoline, and gifts. Still waiting to find out details on number of officials coming and the itinerary.
Motion was made by Lindsey Ferguson, seconded by Bridget Roberts, funds for meals for lunch, dinner, gasoline for the week, gifts and any miscellaneous expenses that arise, but not to exceed \$10,000.
Motion carried
 - c. FY26 Budget Money – Bridget explained the \$20,000 budgeted money is still there, it just has not been transferred to the Foundation account yet.
 - d. JAST Membership – The annual JAST membership is due for renewal. An invoice was received to renew the membership at Director's Level for \$1,000, which includes discounts to the SEUS Conference.
Motion was made by Lindsey Ferguson, seconded by Bridget Roberts, to renew the JAST membership at the Director's Level.
Motion carried

IV. The meeting adjourned (Next meeting set for Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 12pm)

Approved:

Betty Ruleman
Betty Ruleman, Secretary

Date 8/12/26