

Lawrence Sister Cities Meeting
February 14th, 2024
Watkins Museum Community Room and virtual

Members Present: Sheri Hamilton, Ken Albrecht, Bill Keel,
Sara Kasten, James Hilliard, Bart Littljohn,
Courtney Shipley, Kelly Scholz, Jan Miller,
Also Present: Phyllis Farrar

Call to order by Bill Keel

Announcements

- Tocopilla will be considered to be an official Sister City at city commission on March 5th at City Hall.
- Dr. Keel recorded a message for the Sister Cities Museum Minute for the museum installation.
- January and February minutes will be done in March.

Treasurer's Report- Hamilton

- Discussion of year end closeout.
- For data and numbers see financial report. Motion to approve financial report made by Kelly, seconded by Jan. Approved unanimously.
- January and February (see financial reports).
- City of Lawrence grant received for 2023.
- Discussion regarding anonymous donations. They are currently put into the travel fund.
- \$530 in gifts came in. \$500 from Breakfast Optimists and Rotary.
- Katheryn Denning, has agreed to be the new bookkeeper and will be working on transferring accounts and end of year tax statements.
- Unless a donation specifies membership or trip fees, it goes to scholarship fund.
- When monies come through Zephy, the person (treasurer) must identify where it goes.

Budget- Scholz

- For trip budgets see reports.
- \$1,200 not guaranteed but applied for.
- Discussion regarding the use of trip reserve money.
- Kelly will bring reserve account balances in March.
- Ken motioned to approve the budget for Eutin. Seconded by James. Approved unanimously.
- Ken motioned to approve the 2024 budget, seconded by Bill. Approved unanimously.

Website Committee - Farrar

- Phyllis reminded everyone to pay annual dues.
- Phyllis edited the site and added Minutes.
- Phyllis is also watching the new zeffy system.

Public Relations Committee - Miller

- Waiting on particulars from Diana about the trivia night, possibly in April.
- Jan created a press release for the new sister city announcement March 5th.

Friends of Hiratsuka - Hilliard

- Plans for the trip for nine students are on track.

Friends of Eutin- Albrecht

- Student trip is set for June 4th - July 4th.
- Adult trip June 24th -June 30th. Should have an informational meeting February 28th.

Sara Kasten gave an update on Tocopilla. There is a draft MOU prepared for Tokopilla. Don't forget to join for the acceptance of Tocopilla as a Sister City March 5th.

James Hilliard shared information about KEEPS, Kansas Educational Enrichment Program, for lower income students for \$1000 scholarships. We need to become part of the organization so that students and Sister Cities can get the funds. Motion to join made by Kelly, seconded by Bill. Approved unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn made by Ken, seconded by Kelly. Approved unanimously.

Next Meeting is March 13th, 2024 Watkin's Museum Community Room and virtual.
Submitted by Courtney Shipley