



**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**City Hall North**  
**November 7, 2023**  
**6:00 pm**  
**In-person & Zoom Meeting**  
**MINUTES**

**WELCOME:**

I. Call to order – Regina Pryor, President.

**QUORUM ROLL CALL** (12 elected members are currently needed for a quorum.  
 \*Emeritus members do not count for this purpose.)

NAME	Y	N	NAME	Y	N
Goh		X	McCormick	X	
Andrews		X	Park	X	
Besenfelder	X		Pryor	X	
Cha	X		Ramos	Z	
Choi	Z		Schlaerth	Z	
delToro-Diaz	X		Singh		X
Dillon	X		Sproul	X	
Fleisher	X		Stone	X	
He	Z		Tamsi		X
Hernandez	Z		Verdugo	X	
Hungerford	Z		*Park E		X
Jhaj	Z		*Park Y		X
Kooner	Z				

Members: Mickey & Naoko Mello, Mona Sidhu  
 Guest: Jonathan Young

**II. SECRETARY’S REPORTS**

- A. Minutes: Fleisher. Motion: Stone. Second: Sproul. Motion passed.
- B. Correspondence: Pryor. Wakayama letter and commemorative book from choir visit.

**III. TREASURER’S REPORTS:** Schlaerth. Motion: Fleisher. Second: Besenfelder. Motion passed.

**IV. MAYOR’S REPORT:** Mayor Goh. Mayor not present, but will be present for holiday party.

**V. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Pryor

- A. NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS: Debi Besenfelder 11/2, Elizabeth Ramos 11/18
- B. Newsletter will feature each Sister City Committee – November – Bucheon  
 Who will be featured in January? Cixi.

## **VI. DISCUSSION**

A. Peace Pole in Sister City Gardens Update. Met at gardens with representatives from Recreation & Parks, Bakersfield College, and Rotary Club. Looking to have pole be as sturdy as possible, online options don't seem reasonable for longevity/pricing. BC metalworking planning to construct it with materials provided by Recreation & Parks. City will also handle installation, and location was chosen at the meeting. Completion potentially in Spring 2024, aiming for commemoration on Peace Day in 2024.

B. Holiday Party December 5 at Fruitvale Norris Recreation Building at 6:00 PM. Board members will be providing food. Prize for best holiday outfit.

C. Downtown Christmas Parade – December 7 – Thursday 6pm. We are officially signed up to participate. For each city we need at least 2 youth ambassadors to wear clothing representing the city's culture.

D. Sister City Publicity Report Update. No new updates.

E. Annual Meeting March 5 – Location ideas. Senior Pepe's?

F. Sister City Festival with Music in the Spring – committee volunteers? Besenfelder, Ramos, Pryor, Stone, Verdugo, Park

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Amritsar: Kooner. Parade in Yuba City with 150,000 people. Congressmen and legislators also present. Elections in Amritsar ongoing into next year.

B. Bucheon: Cha. Homestay students will be her from January 11-18. Visit in March as part of trip to Canadian Sister City.

C. Queretaro: Ramos/Tamsi. Not many updates on Queretaro itself, but large local event went very well.

D. Cixi: Pryor. Hat and lucky knot gifts given out. Genealogy conference happening in Beijing, a group going would like to stop by Cixi so communication has been sent to our contacts.

E. Wakayama: Stone/Verdugo. Commemorative books from Wakayama Children's Choir Trip to be delivered to host families. Recruiting students to go to Wakayama in June, cost is: \$2829. Dr. Iwahashi, the President of Wakayama Sister City Committee, was honored with a national award in Japan for his contributions to child development.

F. Other:

Saint-Jean-de-Luz: Andrews/Pryor. Committee met and are planning a youth trip to Saint Jean for March 22-March 30. 10-15 students, around 5 adults, with 2 days in Paris.

## **VIII. OTHER ITEMS**

A. Facebook & Website: Hungerford. Website running fine. Fees will be due in February. Online membership form app may cost \$40-50. Potential Google Form?

B. SoCal: Stone. No news.

C. Youth Advisory: Sproul. Bucheon committee needs to get together to plan before January meeting.

## **IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

BYSO Concert Monday, November 13 – 7:00 PM at CSUB Dore Theater. Some of the BYSO members were our youth ambassadors in Bucheon last July..

Jonathan Young: Running CSUB student trip to Kansai-region.

## **X. NEXT MEETING**

A. Next meeting HOLIDAY PARTY on 12/5 at Fruitvale Norris Recreation Building at 6:00 PM  
FUTURE MEETINGS: 1/2, 2/6, 3/5 (Annual Dinner), 4/2, 5/7, 6/4

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Fleisher. Second: Cha. The motion was passed and meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.