

2021-04-15 Pasadena Sister Cities Meeting

Attendees

Michael Warner, Helen Kouyoumdjian, Gary Moody, Olivia Bueno, Laura Terry, Taleen Hindoyan, Johnny Kamon, Angie Gomez, Lena Kennedy, Carla Boykin, Bryan Takeda, Tammy Silver, Elisia Ligons Farmer, Marcia Montez, Ofelia Edmonston, Fred Alcantar, Maggie Gihanian, Cathy Wei

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm

Membership: Taleen said we have 48 paid members and 84 people on our list. Send you \$25 dues to: Elisia Farmer, 2375 Vista Laguna Ter. Pasadena CA 91103

Minutes: Gary Moody moved; Helen seconded to approve minutes of March 18, 2021. Motion passed.

Treasurers report: All tax forms are in order. Elisia said all tax filings have been taken care of and necessary corrections made.

Hospitality Report: They met at 5pm, right before this Sister City meeting. They are planning a BBQ for this August for around 50 people. PSCC will contribute hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken from Stone Fire Grill, and buns and condiments. Armenia committee will provide tablecloths, utensils and plates. We need to pay the city \$168.00 for 3 hours of attendant fee. We want Area C at Brookside Park. We might be able to go to Victory Park for no fee, hospitality committee will look into Victory Park. China will bring beverages and hand sanitizer and ice. Japan will bring dessert and fresh fruit. Finland will bring salad and beans from Stone Fire, Lucia will buy a salad from Green Street. This is not a pot luck; no homemade food, all food to be purchased from a restaurant to grocery store.

Finland Report: During April, the Finland sub-committee continued to explore an educational program with Järvenpää high school in Finland. When Tamara contacted Ms. Titta Hurme, Ms. Hurme suggested doing chemistry or physics presentations for our Pasadena students via Zoom. On April 12, Ms. Hurme contacted Laura by email to arrange a time for us to talk more about future exchange programs. Tamara has contacts at Polytechnic School and Marshall Fundamental School. Laura has contacts with John Muir and Lucia will also make a contact students.

Japan: The stamps ordered are en route and will be here soon. There is a California-Japan Sister Cities Network event on Friday, May 14, 2021, 4:30-6:30pm. Topic is, "Citizen Diplomacy through Technology and Innovation". RSVP by May 3 here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfuBDccZ0lQ9T53b1yODlO-3zCcG_c0x7TJ0lmpv4zpPnRW3Q/viewform. Bryan Takeda is on the board of the network. He

said the program will be outstanding and encouraged us all to attend. There are 100 Sister City relationships between California cities and Japanese cities. They are working on a virtual koto performance with Kita High School in Mishima. June Kuramoto, a koto player from the group Hiroshima is helping to connect Bryan with her world of koto players for this program. Hopefully she will attend and comment on the performance. Koto program is tentatively scheduled for June.

Senegal: Speaker series, Dr. Aaron Bruce of Art Center college of Design spoke at the Senegal Committee's April 8 Speaker Series event. He spoke about how important and transformative student exchanges are. You can go onto YouTube to find recordings of these speaker events. Here is a link to Dr. Bruce's talk: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7JdkOMRODg>

Armenia: ARDA has partnered with our friends at the Social Department Gougark Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church. Fifty of the most needy families were identified to receive \$50/family of humanitarian aid on behalf of the Pasadena Sister City Committee. The Social department of Gougak advised ARDA that the biggest need for the families were blankets and beddings as they are being offered food from other sources. Hence, ARDA served to the greatest need and purchased \$2,500 worth of bedding with the money Pasadena Sister Cities donated.

SoCal Sister Cities: Carla attended a meeting last week. On Friday, May 14, from 6:30-8:00pm SoCal Sister Cities will stream a condensed version of the Youth Leadership Summit. you need to register to watch the conference of February 6. Also, you can go to SoCal Sister Cities site to view videos students made. High School and College aged students can still submit videos that will be uploaded to the virtual summit website. SoCal Sister Cities encouraged all to build relationships and keep connections through Zoom because it will be quite a while before we will be able to travel again.

Maggie commented that our website needs to be updated. Rob Bowen does the updating. Michael Warner needs to get the current information to Rob.

Margaret Gihanian is no longer the vice chair of the Armenia committee. Helen Kouyoumdjian is the new vice chair.

Calendar:

May 14 Japan Summit and Youth Summit

May 20 Next Pasadena Sister Cities meeting

June 17 Two year anniversary of our signing the Sister City agreement with Senegal

August 14 BBQ

Meeting adjourned, 6:52pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Silver