



SISTER CITIES PROGRAM

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

11:00am – City Hall

- I. Welcome
 - a. Roll Call:
 - i. Present: Betty Ruleman, Randy Dowling, Anna Barrios, Becky Simpson, Joe Barnett and Lindsey Ferguson
 - ii. Absent: Larry Eaton and Austin Fesmire
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Motion was made by Lindsey Ferguson, seconded by Joe Barnett, for the approval of the April 9, 2026 minutes.
Motion carried
- III. New Business
 - a. New Industry Representative – Donna Ballew
Motion was made by Randy Dowling, seconded by Lindsey Ferguson, to approve Donna Ballew to serve the remainder term of the Industry Representative, until July 17, 2026.
 - b. Planning for 2026 Chinzei Gakuin Visit and Fundraising – Board discussed the planned activities and funds still needed for the students visit. The additional \$1500 approved in the February meeting will be needed for the hotel stay in Nashville on Saturday before their return flight. Funds are still needed for the Dollywood trip.
 - c. Lecture Series Planning – Sushi making class went well and next class will be during the students visit in July.
 - d. Planning for 2026 Isahaya City Officials Visit (October 18-23) – Randy informed the Board that 10-15 people will be visiting and a more definitive schedule will be released closer to the time of visit. They will tour Denso, Economic Development suggested sites, and City Hall. Suggestion was made of a dinner at Silver Spring Vinyard and local themed gifts. Transportation has been requested for the visitors
 - e. New Business – International Sister Cities – It was requested to see why we are not members.
 - f. New Business – Randy Dowling suggested the Bylaws be changed and submitted a new set for the Board to review. The Board was also given a copy of the current Bylaws for comparison purposes.

IV. The meeting adjourned (Next meeting set for Tuesday, June 16, 2026)

Approved:

Betty Ruleman
Betty Ruleman, Secretary

Date 6/16/26