



SISTER CITIES PROGRAM

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

12:00pm – City Hall

- I. Welcome
 - a. Roll Call:
 - i. Present: Victoria White, Lindsey Ferguson, Larry Eaton, Austin Fesmire, Ersu Henry, Randy Dowling and Betty Ruleman
 - ii. Guests: Marvin Bolinger and Sandra Kinney
 - iii. Absent: Becky Simpson
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Motion was made by Ersu Henry, seconded by Lindsey Ferguson, for the approval of the March 5, 2025 minutes.
Motion carried
- III. New Business
 - a. Discuss history of Sister City Committee – Marvin Bolinger and Ausin Fesmire
The history of the connection of the Sister City Committee and Tennessee Wesleyan and how they impacted bringing Denso to Athens. The committee utilized Civic groups and other volunteers and everyone pulled together to make the plan happen.
 - b. Discuss goals of committee moving forward – The Board needs to find new opportunities for new economic ties. The City schools need to be involved, like they were in the past. Continue the programs that were started this year and build on them. Add the Athens City Schools and Main Street Director to the Committee to insure their involvement in the community.
 - c. Discuss Chenzei Gakuin Visit Involvement – Betty Ruleman presented the Board with an itinerary.
 - 1. Evening of Presentations – Monday, July 14th
Larry and Randy to make an official presentation/welcome
 - 2. Host Dinner at Trinity - Saturday, July 19th
The Board will have a caterer provide the dinner at Trinity
 - d. Set next meeting date – April 23, 2025 12:00pm at City Hall Conference Room

IV. The meeting adjourned

Approved:

Betty Ruleman, Secretary

Date