

## **Minutes of the Blue Mountains Sister Cities Committee held on Wednesday 13 May, 2009 at the Springwood Neighbourhood Centre, Springwood commencing at 7.40 pm**

**Present:** Junko Howard, Margaret Kennedy, Janne Bent, Petra Graham, Allan Graham, Chris Howard, Joyce Henderson, Colleen Kime, Trevor Hamilton, Marion Crossman

### **1. Welcome.**

**2. Apologies,** Chris Wenman, Kerry Kime., Chris Van der Kley

### **3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Janne Bent moved Minutes be accepted, seconded Petra Graham. Carried

### **4. Correspondence:**

**4.1** Email list (in/out)

**4.2** Japan Report Vol 44 No.1 Autumn 2009 from Consulate-General of Japan.

**4.3** Final Notice for PO Box from Australia Post

**4.4** Account for Internet to Julie Bargenquast, BMCC

**4.5** Updated Guidelines for the use of the Centre from Springwood Neighbourhood Centre.

### **5. Business Arising from Correspondence**

**5.1** PO Box renewal confirmed

**5.2** Personnel shuffle in Machizukuri Kyodo Centre, Sanda. Junko advised we have not heard who the next Secretary for SIA. The new person is due to start this month. Tomiko has moved to the Gender Equality Promotion. Kenichi Kozuki has replaced her, but he is also responsible for the Gender Equality Promotion as well as International Relations. International Relations still have 4 members

**5.3** No invitation for Sanda International Masters Marathon in 2010 due to financial difficulties. We have not been inviting runners over as long as they have been inviting runners there, so we should keep inviting.

**5.4** Phil Pinyon, the GM, BMCC visits Flagstaff in June. He is going to Texas to a financial conference and he has arranged to visit Flagstaff from 9<sup>th</sup> June to 12<sup>th</sup> June. We will ask the GM to speak with the Flagstaff International Sister Cities Association if possible to encourage and strengthen the sister cities relationship. Eric Jensen said he knew someone was coming over who was interested in bush fires

**5.5** Mobile Phone . Junko was asked how the phone is working and she said he has not used it to call out.

**5.6** Junko was asked if we had the name of Julie's replacement. It is Jasmine Cooper.

**5.7** Junko advised an Invitation sent to Sanda to the Leura Village Spring Fair and Leura Garden Festival by the Mayor, but nothing back yet

**5.8** Chris van der Kley did check the cost of the air fares and what we paid is what it is.

**5.9** Junior Ambassador Program. Decided to put advert in the Gazette once and email details to all High Schools in Mountains. Advert to go in on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Applications close the last Friday in June 26<sup>th</sup> and interviews will be the last Sunday in July i.e. 26 July.

### **7. General Business:**

#### **7.1 Woodford Glenbrook Classic (28 June).**

Registration has been done: \$80 paid (\$40 each)

Host families are Rob Spelling for Mr. Teruhiko Tsuda and Margaret Kennedy for Ms Chisato Murakami. Colleen to confirm that Kerry will do the airport pick on Friday. Janne will do return trip on Tues which is a 7.50am flight.

Colleen volunteered to host welcoming party on the Sunday evening after the race. Everyone bring plate.

Kerry will get meat. On Saturday the runners will visit Katoomba and the race start. On Monday the host family will go to the city. Anyone is welcome to go with them.

#### **7.2 Junior Ambassador.**

*Action Item.* Janne to email Trevor Hamilton with the advert for the Gazette. It will need the 2 crests on it – the Sanda on the right and the BMCC birds' logo on the right. To go in on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

Junko to Google to get school email addresses.

Panel for Interview on 26 July. Ask Chris Van der Kley as the BMCC representative on our Committee if he wants to be on the panel Suggested we contact Mrs Kako Vincent at Wentworth Falls as the Japanese speaking person. Janne will do afternoon tea.

*Action item.* Email Chris van der Kley about being on the Junior Ambassador Panel.

Marion Crossman said she had some one who volunteered to host one of the Sanda students. Advised both were boys this time.

*Action Item. Send profile of the 2 students to Marion.*

Colleen moved we financially assist host family in the sum of \$250 for the fortnight. Seconded Joyce Henderson. Carried

### **7.3 Spring celebration (to replace Japanese Foundation Day)**

Possibly with The Leura Village Fair

Junko advised we have heard nothing since the last meeting. Dates are the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> October. We have given details to Michael Kelly of Japan Club of Sydney that has a dance group within the Club.

Marion Crossman said if wanted to get more teenagers interested, could have some sort of competition for Japanese anime characters as kids know a lot about these anime characters. Sister cities could donate a prize. Colleen talked about our quilt, which is made up of squares sent from Sanda and also about the squares that we did and sent to Sanda with themes from Blue Mts. Our quilt was on show recently at the Springwood High School quilt show. Kerry brought back pictures back of our quilt from when he was in Sanda. What we did with their squares was beautiful. Colleen may bring the quilt to our next meeting before it goes to Council. It was suggested that a quilt show with Japanese theme as another idea.

*Action Item. Email Michael Kelly with the 2 suggestions.*

### **7.4 Possible SIA's visit to BM in 2009.**

Mayoral letter to SIA dated 23 April 2009 has been sent out.

### **7.5 Financial Statement**

- Discrepancies total \$876.18
- \$300 for a gift in the October Financial Statement
- \$396.18 out of \$1628.29 in the December Statement  
( $\$1628.29 + \$657.59 + \$657.59 + \$180.11 + \$133.00$ )
  - \$706.11 credited back in January F/S
  - \$526.00 credited back in the February F/S
  - - \$180 under Sanda Visit in March F/S

Junko advised that the \$180.11 is not for jackets so \$180.11 to be credited back. Still \$396.18 short and \$180.11 to be credited back. These amounts have the name of S.Mortenson against them. The way the information on the Financial statement is given makes it hard to track money especially when expenses are paid out do not come before the Committee. Moved by Colleen Kime that any purchases made by Council employees in relation to their visit to Sanda be refunded as they have to pay their own purchases as we never agreed to paying them. Need to take the amounts of \$180, \$396.18 and the \$300 for the gift up with General Manager. Seconded Marion Crossman. Carried. Junko said we had \$627.26 left in budget.

**7.6 Ad in Gazette** for monthly meeting is still about \$30 due to size of heading. May change to see if we can reduce cost

**7.7 Procedure/Manual for annual events.** Defer to next meeting

**7.8 Possible primary exchange program with Sanda.** This has stalled. It is Nikki Cooper from Blue Mts Grammar who was interested in initially an email exchange program/ pen pal.

**7.9 Flagstaff** – pen pals. Nothing further.

**7.10 Jackets for runners.** Janne to organise late June.

**7.11 Photograph Album.**

Colleen Kime moved to buy photo albums to put the runner's photographs in. Seconded Janne Bent. Carried.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm