

Denver Takayama Sister Cities Committee
Minutes
Robin Dee Post, DTSCC Secretary
January 15, 2019

Attendees: Kitty Comstock, Steve Comstock, Kay Fahlberg, David Hoskins, Debbie Kacik, Kevin Lance, Paul Noguera, Robin Post, Jim Tait, Matt Weller, Susan Weller.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Steve Comstock at 7:15PM.

Minutes: Steve Comstock indicated that we would cover items discussed in the minutes in tonight's meeting.

Treasurer's report: Jim Tait reported that our bottom line has remained consistent at approximately \$16,500. After a brief discussion, the committee asked Jim to look into using a portion of our funds to purchase a Certificate of Deposit

Recent Events:

Shinnenkai. Our new year's celebration this year was successful and fun. Approximately 35 people attended, including the Japanese Consul General.

Upcoming Events:

Upcoming visit from Takayama. A delegation from Takayama will be in Denver from January 21st to 24th to: discuss plans for 2020, evaluate the yatai so that repairs can be made this summer, and meet with the new Consul General.

The DSCI annual meeting will be held at the Jewish Community Center on January 24th from 6 to 9 PM. Tickets are \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members.

The Kohaku singing competition will be held at the Buddhist temple on Saturday January 26th. The event is free. Bento boxes will be sold for \$10.

The JET Alumni Association of the Rocky Mountains will celebrate Shinnenkai on Saturday February 2nd at the Tomai Tower.

Setsubun. We will celebrate Setsubun on Monday, February 11th at Sonoda's. Dinner will cost \$37 per person.

The world premiere of *Gravitas*, a musical work by Michael Frank, past president and current treasurer of DSCI, will take place at the First Universalist Church, 4101 E. Hampden Boulevard on Saturday, February 16th.

The Kunming Committee will celebrate Chinese New Year at the Empress Seafood Restaurant on Sunday February 17th.

Prints and photos of Japan were donated by the Currigan family to the city of Denver. They will be housed in the Denver Public Library. Matt Weller and/or Kay Fahlberg will attend the event at the Library on January 29th.

Possible Future Programs:

Yasakoi dance club. There are no new developments regarding the formation of a dance club.

Japanese meal and a movie. Paul Noguera volunteered to plan this event for the committee.

Trip Planning:

Adult trips to Japan 2019

Introduction to Japan trip will be led by Gail Jackson and David Hoskins in late May. Twenty-five people have expressed interest in this trip.

Japan in Depth trip will be led by Kevin Lance in October. A second leader has not been identified as yet. Seventeen people have expressed interest in this trip. We talked about possible destinations in Japan.

Student visit from Japan in 2019. Students from Takayama will visit Denver in late July or early August along with a small delegation of students and adults who will work on our yatai.

Rugby World Cup trips are planned by David Hoskins to occur in September and October 2019. These are not DSCI trips.

2020 Events:

Student Exchange to Japan

Japan Olympics trip. Is being planned for July 24th to August 9th. Lauren Zelek has expressed interest in leading this trip.

60th anniversary trip to Japan

60th anniversary visit from Takayama. We will plan a reception and dinner for our guests. It is likely that the Takayama Wind Orchestra will also visit Denver to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2019.

Reminder: The web page for keeping current with Denver Takayama activities is:

<https://www.denversistercities.org/takayama/>

This web site is updated regularly. Note at the bottom of the box on the left is a link to a page where you can check out volunteering needs and sign up to help. The direct link is:

<https://www.denversistercities.org/takayama/Volunteer.shtml>