

Denver Takayama Sister Cities Committee
Minutes
Robin Dee Post, DTSCC Secretary
September 18, 2018

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

Attendees: Kitty Comstock, Steve Comstock, Kay Fahlberg, Marc Hughes, Debbie Kacik, Kevin Lance, Claire Magrath, Robin Post, Charles St. John, Jim Tait, Jenny Mae Samson, and Lauren Zelek.

Minutes: Steve reviewed the major items that were covered in the minutes of the last meeting.

Recent Events:

- * The Japanese Kite Festival sponsored by JASC was held last week-end. Several committee members served as volunteers. Sadly there was no wind on Sunday so the kites did not fly.
- * Steve attended the DSCI BOD/CLAC meeting yesterday. He indicated that there are openings on the DSCI Board. There will be fundraisers coming up (Colorado Gives / 70 for 70)

Upcoming Events:

- * Academy of Lifelong Learning. On Wednesday, October 10th there will be a presentation about Takayama as part of an ALLI class focused on Denver Sister Cities. Wendy Barile and Steve Comstock plan to present. If you would like to join as a presenter, please contact Steve.
- * City in a Suitcase: Montclair Elementary School has requested presentations on Takayama for three third grade classes in November before Thanksgiving. Kevin Lance and Debbie Kacik volunteered to present.
- * Parks and Recreation Takayama park sign. Parks and Recreation have told us that the cost of a detailed sign in English and Japanese for the park would be \$6100. In addition, we would be asked to maintain the sign. Members of the committee thought that the cost was prohibitive. Charles St. John suggested that we fund the attachment to the existing sign of a Japanese translation of City of Takayama Park. The committee will consider the feasibility of this idea.
- * Opening Colorado's Doors for Japan initiative. Steve discussed the possibility of developing mutually supportive relationships with other cities in Colorado that have Sister Cities in Japan.

A trip might be planned in the future that would include visits to multiple cities. Lauren Zelek expressed an interest in working on this project.

* Grant Writer. Our Committee is seeking one or more people with grant writing experience to help obtain funding for future activities and events. Jenny Mae Samson volunteered.

Planning for Future Trips:

* Adult trips to Japan for 2019. Three trips are being considered: A ski trip for people holding the Epic Pass to be led by Charles St. John (5 people have expressed interest); An Introduction to Japan trip (16 people are interested), and a Japan in Depth trip (11 people are interested). A sub-committee has been formed to plan for trips to Japan.

* A student visit from Japan is scheduled for the summer of 2019.

* A student exchange to Japan is scheduled for the summer of 2020.

* A trip to Japan that coincides with the Olympics in Tokyo is being considered for July 2019. The Olympics take place between July 24 and August 9. To date 9 people have expressed interest in going to Japan and staying for the Olympics.

* 60th anniversary trip to Takayama in 2020. The consensus of the committee is that we should merge the anniversary and Olympics visit into one trip rather than trying to plan for two trips.

* 60th anniversary trip from Takayama in 2020. A contingent from Takayama will visit us in 2020 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Denver/Takayama Sister City relationship. This trip may coincide with the Cherry Creek Arts Festival. We will plan a dinner for the visitors as we did for the 55th anniversary. This trip will probably include a visit by the Takayama Wind Orchestra, which will be celebrating its 50th anniversary.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on October 16th.