

GESCA Board Meeting
November 6, 2018
2:00 p.m.
M & M Cafe

PRESENT: Jim Card, Ron Ture, Tomiko Takeuchi, Barry Busse and Mary Ann Buck

MINUTES: The Minutes from the October 9, 2018 meeting were approved by all present.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The balance of the GESCA account is \$5,423.91. This included the grant of \$1,250.00 from the City of Gresham that will be used for the Student Exchange. Additionally, the Bottle Drop Account has \$73.80 and the Edward Jones Endowment Account balance is \$13,119.69. Ron will contact Edward Jones to see about moving some of the endowment fund to a CD.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tomiko discussed our partnership with Koto Kai and suggested that they be listed on the website as a supporter/partner. She also suggested instead of calling this leg of GESCA, Skosh, it be called Cultural Program. She will also apply for a cultural grant from the city of Gresham for costs incurred for cultural events sponsored by GESCA.

Jim reported that Jay Lopez was unable to attend today's meeting but was interested in helping as an ambassador for GESCA. He contacted Reynolds High School about host families for the exchange. It was suggested that he serve on the Student Exchange Committee with Ron Ture and Barry Busse so there can be coordination regarding who is contacting the schools about the exchange program. Jim will contact Jay to ask if he would participate in this role.

Jim will check with Taylor to see if she is still interested in working with GESCA since she is no longer working with John Clark. She had been sending out email reminders to volunteers at the garden and sending out the minutes to members.

Discussion was held regarding the need for additional insurance that would cover board members if anything happened to students while participating in the exchange program. Parents sign disclaimers so we are protected, but Michael Gonzales of the city staff, said he would check with city attorney, David Ris's office to see if the cost of additional coverage for the period of time the students are here or our students are in Japan, could be covered by a grant that would be provided by the City.

Barry has appointments with four possible host families for this winter's exchange and will be interviewing two of the host families from Reynold's High School tonight. Robert Higgins has sent the profiles of the three students who will be here from January 10- February 8, 2019.

Barry will check with the students who went on the exchange to Japan this past summer to see if they would be willing to make a presentation they made at the September GESCA meeting to the Gresham School Board.

Tomiko asked how we can support Tania Mostovoy, at Reynold's High School since the school has dropped the Japanese program. Ron will follow up with the principal to see if they were able to offer an on-line program for the students. He will also talk with the Mt. Hood Community

College Japanese program. Tomiko offered support if the students form a Japanese Club at the school. Barry and Ron will meet to discuss how to use the money from the city grant for the program.

Jim Card announced that he is applying for a grant to remodel the shoebox and to enhance the special needs students' adult program. He will meet on Friday with Kara Tyson, the director of the adult program. The garden will also partner with a CVC program which will provide volunteers to help with projects. The garden has also been given a room in the City Maintenance barn where we will be able to store equipment and supplies for the garden. The city is also looking at a new wifi system with Comcast.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of GESCA will be a full membership meeting, held at City Hall on Tuesday, December 4. A reminder will be sent to all GESCA members prior to the meeting, asking them to RSVP so we can plan for refreshments. It will also be advertised on Next Door.

The program for the evening will be:

5:30 pm Board meeting

6:30 - 7:00 pm Social time with entertainment arranged by Tomiko

7:00 pm Presentation on ceramics in Ebetsu, put together by Ron.

8:00 pm Update on the Student Exchange program, including information on three students coming here from January 10- February 8 and perhaps an introduction of the Host Families? along with information regarding the City grant and how it will be used for the Exchange.

8:15 pm Projected plans for each of the three legs (Garden, Exchange & Cultural) for the 2019 year. Each section would have 5 minutes to report.)

8:30 pm Close of meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Buck, Secretary