**GESCA**

**Meeting Minutes**

**June 10, 2019**

**Present:** Tomiko Takeuchi, Ron Ture, Barry Busse, Mary Ann Buck

**BUSINESS MEETING**

Ron Ture brought the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. as Tomiko’s bus was running late. Tomiko arrived about 15 minutes later and continued to chair the meeting. Reports from the Student Exchange,Committee, the Treasurer’s Report, The Garden Report and Minutes of the last meeting were emailed to all board members prior to the meeting. The minutes of the May meeting were passed by consensus.

1. Treasurer’s Report: Barry began by reviewing the Treasurer’s Report which included a detailed Historical Budget Report from 2014-2019 and the Proposed 2019-2020 Budget. He explained that the revenue source may change by July 1 as he anticipated $500.00 for yearly membership fees which are just starting to come in. Jim Card talked with the City of Gresham and they will provide a grant of $600 to cover the cost of Liability Insurance. If anyone has questions about the proposed budget, please let Barry know. There was some confusion as to who is doing the taxes for the Ebetsu Plaza Account. As of December, 2017, monies coming into the Ebetsu Plaza account are no longer going through the GESCA account, although Barry has access to both accounts on-line. We have the same tax ID# and John Clark was doing Quickbooks, but now Katey Card is doing it according to John Clark.

2. Audit: It would be good to have an audit done occasionally. If anyone knows of a third party who would be willing to donate their services to do an audit , let Tomiko know.

3. Website: Ron will be working on the website with David Weaver. He suggested that we eliminate the tree which comes up when one opens the website and have the three buckets of GESCA be on the opening page to make it easier for folks to navigate.

4. 501 C 3: Jim Card suggested to Tomiko that we allow others to join our 501 C 3 as a fundraiser for us. The idea was discussed and it was felt that it would be a book-keeping nightmare for us. Ron moved that we reject the idea and Barry seconded the motion. All present approved.

5. July 20 Plant Sale: Alyson Huntting is chairing this event that will take place during Gresham’s Art Festival. Ron felt we would need about 20 volunteers to help with set-up, take-down, handing out flyers at the Art Festival, and helping to possibly carry plants to buyer’s cars. It was suggested that we ask Hideo to help and perhaps ask the Rotary Club if they would be willing to work. From the board, the following will volunteer to help Jim and Alyson: Barry, Ron, Yoshiko, Mary Ann.

6. Meeting dates: It was suggested that the Board meet every other month, rather than monthly. It was proposed that the next meeting be either Monday, August 5 or Monday, August 12 at 2 pm at M & M**. Board members are asked to respond to Tomiko as to which date would work best for them.** The next general meeting will take place on September 9 with a program from the students who are going to Ebetsu this summer.

5. The board meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING:

The General Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

1. Tomiko presented the slate of officers for the coming year which were approved by consensus. Officers are: President – Tomiko Takeuchi, Vice President – Ron Ture, Treasurer – Barry Busse, Secretary – Mary Ann Buck, and At Large Member – Jim Card.

2. The three students who took part in last year’s exchange, Larisa Yermakov, Tania Mostovoy and Jose Canales, attended this meeting and all volunteered to help with the July 20 Plant Sale. Janet Westberg also volunteered to help on July 20.

3. Dr. Katrise Perera, Superintendent of Schools for Gresham-Barlow, was unable to attend the meeting due to commencement exercises.

2. Miyoko Fuse gave a power point presentation which included information on the new emperor of Japan, Crown Prince Naruhito, who succeeded his father, Emperor Akihito, citing declining health, on May 1, 2019, ushering in the Reiwa reign. (Rei, meaning good or beautiful and Wa, meaning peace or harmony.) The Emperor is the symbol of Japan, but holds no political power. Emperor Naruhito was born on February 23, 1960, and this date will now be a national holiday, honoring the Emperor’s Birthday. Miyoko then gave an informative and interesting presentation on the 16 holidays a year that are celebrated in Japan.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Buck, Secretary