

KANEGASAKI SISTER CITY COMMITTEE
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
April 24th 2018, 4-5 PM, Jones Library in the Goodwin Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Abida Adnan (Chair), Nancy Pagano (Treasurer/Staff Liaison, Amherst Senior Center), Helen MacMellon (Secretary/Amherst Senior Center), Denise Boyd (Amherst Middle School), Cyndi Harbeson (Jones Library) Naomi Elliott (Key Real Estate),

MEMBERS ABSENT: Andy Steinberg (Select Board Liaison), Aaron Kropf (Amherst High School), Carly Jane Watson

GUEST: T. R. Rosenberg, Alex Kent

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Nancy

A reminder that the committee will need a new secretary.

MINUTES APPROVED from February 27 meeting.

March Debrief of Spring Visit- Denise

- **Wednesday** - Welcoming Ceremony-Japanese students enjoyed the refreshments. The power point , which was given by Kanegasaki, was well received by all. It was noted that Mark Jackson , ARHS Principal, welcomed our guests as did Town Manager and a Select Board Member .
- **Thursday** -Ginger Garden- chaperones dined here on Thursday night and once again the conversation was thoughtful and food appetizing.
- **Friday**- All members present thanked Abida for her generous welcoming dinner on Friday. Our chaperones felt honored to share in a delicious meal with committee members , community members as well Abida's family who welcomed us with open arms.
- **Saturday** ^{AM} -Nancy reported that her time with our guests went smoothly. They visited a sugar shack, Kringle Candle and had a walking tour of Shelburne Falls before chaperones were brought to the Shelburne Bowling Alley .
- **Saturday PM** - dinner was held at Denise's house where her husband Paul, once again, graced our friends with food followed by song singing and present exchanges.
- **Sunday** Farewell Brunch , which is funded by Kanegasaki , was held at Amherst Regional Middle School. Students from Kanegasaki thanked their hosts for inviting them into their homes and for taking special care of them while they were here.

JONES LIBRARY- Cyndi

Cyndi showed us the special selection of books from Kanegasaki . With the help of an intern, Cyndi has been working to record and archive in the Special Collections Dept. of Information anything related to KSCC . Some of our gifts received from Kanegasaki are on display in the library's atrium. Cyndi wondered if we could start a dialogue with Kanegasaki about the type of books they send to the Jones, as well as asking our community what type of books they would like to read or look at from Japan.

Alex Kent

Alex presented an idea he has to begin an exchange for "Older Citizens" from Amherst to visit Japan. The trip would focus on increasing awareness about Japan and to visit Kanegasaki since we have a Sister City relationship. It was suggested by some members that LSSE may be a place to begin this type of endeavor. Some members supported this idea and thought Kanegasaki would welcome visitors.

NEXT MEETING- Unknown

Meeting adjourned: 5:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Boyd