



City of Bellingham Sister Cities Advisory Board

MINUTES - Sister Cities Advisory Board

5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, 2024

Mayor's Board Room at Bellingham City Hall and remote meeting option

- **Welcome and Call to Order**

- Unless noted, all officially appointed Sister Cities representatives were in attendance.
- Absent: Derek Moscato, Mary Hooker and Bolor Smith

- **City Reports**

Advisory board members and meeting participants shared updates about activities related to their Sister Cities.

- **Board Vacancies**

Advisory board members and meeting participants discussed the difference between the City's Sister Cities Advisory Board and the non-profit Sister Cities Association.

- **August 17th Japanese Obon Festival**

Advisory board members and meeting participants shared information about the upcoming Obon Festival, an invitation-only fundraising event hosted by the Sister Cities Association.

- **Peace Grant**

Peace Grant applications will be due this fall for travel in November 2025.

A meeting attendee shared his art and his travel plans. Advisory board members and meeting participants discussed ideas for his application for a Peace Grant and ideas for community presentations on his return.

- **Proposed Mayoral Summit on Climate Change**

Board chair described development of climate summit proposal and sought feedback and participation from advisory board members and other meeting participants.

- **Old/New Business**

Draft "Expectations of Advisory Group Members" document was shared for information, feedback and member action.

- **Public Comment**

No public comment

- **Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm**