Unless noted, all officially appointed Sister Cities representatives were in attendance. Absent: Mary Hooker, Tim Schride.

**Staff attending:** Councilmember Kristina Martens, At-Large Representative; Brooksana Raney, Mayor’s Executive Assistant

Current Sister Cities roster can be found on the City website: [Sister Cities Advisory Board Roster - City of Bellingham, WA (cob.org)](https://cob.org)

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**Welcome**

- President Grier welcomed members and guests.

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**Roll Call and Introductions**

Since the presence of representatives may be seen on the screen, via the Zoom platform, roll call was skipped.

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**Review of Agenda**

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**Approval of October 2022 minutes**

- No quorum

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**City Reports**

**Punta Arenas** – Mary Hooker

- Chair Absent
- Per Steve, Tapio has written to him about the Peace Grant. He may be applying next year for a group to visit Punta Arenas in December 2023.
Cheongju – No chair
- Ask Miwaha if Ski to Sea participants have been identified. Cheongju (Mrs. Kim) expressed interest when speaking to Ross in past.

Vaasa – Jeff Eastman
- Sent information to Suzanna (external relations staff) about Ski to Sea and the possibility of participants from Vaasa.
- Provided information on the Finish Film Festival, February 3-5, with an invitation extended to Mayor Fleetwood to view the student films and make a few remarks.

Tsetserleg – Bolor Smith
- Bolor is going to Mongolia on Feb 14 for two weeks.
  - Brooksana will provide some Bellingham items for her to take to their Mayor.
  - Ross will write a letter.
- There may be a participant for Sea to Ski coming this year; not sure what leg though.
- Bolor continues to look into the idea of an art exchange – more to come.

Tateyama – Tim Schride
- Tateyama Mayor change: Mr. MORI Shoichi, who took office on December 10, 2022
  - A letter from Mayor MORI Shoichi was shared

Port Stephens – Steve Racich
- Ski to Sea information has been sent.
  - If there are athletes coming, homestay is offered but no funds for travel.
  - Can we get enough folks for an international team?

Nakhodka – No chair
- There is an applicant interested in chairing this City.
  - An interview will be done and recommendation made to Mayor Fleetwood.
Old Business/New Business

Cheongju Call
- Dates for the Mayors to speak have been proposed to Mihwa, the Cheongju staff representative, in late January or early February.
  - Waiting for response.

Tateyama Garden
- Parks and PW will be working on some repair on retaining walls in Spring.
- Russ Islay is the contact for PW.
- Next step is getting the rocks.

Upcoming events for Mayor or City to attend
- Mayor give welcome at the Finnish Film Festival
- Meet Ski to Sea participants.
  - May be a kickoff for Ski to Sea at a local elementary. More details from Ross to come once participants are known.
- Maybe a Mongolian New Year celebration.

Announcements
None

Adjourn at 6:45 p.m.
Next meeting April 18, 2023, 5:30 p.m.