

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH**  
**Sister Cities Commission**

6:30 PM  
 March 15, 2023

**MINUTES**

Issaquah Library  
 10 W Sunset Way

**COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

*Commissioners:*

Emily Royce  
 John Girt  
 Ryan Opitz (*Virtual Attendance*)  
 Shari Gehrke  
 Stephanie Angula

*Youth Board Representative:*

Sanvi Madan (*Excused Absence*)

*Administrative Staff:*

Tina Eggers, Chief of Staff (*Virtual Attendance*)

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) Minute of February 8, 2023

The minutes were APPROVED as presented by unanimous consent.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS** – None.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

- a) Annual Report Update
- Ryan will work with Tina to edit the report; Stephanie requested an update regarding progress.
- b) Annual Recruitment Next Steps
- Tina will reach out to confirm interviews with applicants. The interview team will consist of Ryan, John, and Tina.

**REPORTS**

- a) Youth Board Representative
- Stephanie noted that she still working to confirm Youth Board visit – content, date and time.
- b) YAAS Sub-Committee
- No entries received to date. Tina to send email to teachers and remind the halfway point. The sub-committee will meet, reach out to the Issaquah Reporter for additional press, and post flyers.
- c) Mayor's Travel Sub-Committee
- Morocco travel is anticipated between Sept. 6-16, 2023. An excel spreadsheet outlining availability is posted on OneDrive. Former commissioner, Mohamed Belali, will be participating, helping with travel plans and connecting with Chefchaouen Mayor Sefiani.

The sub-committee has an outline of priorities for the trip and will work to finalize. John and Ryan plan to connect with local artists when traveling. Emily suggested a student robotics connection might be possible. Former Commissioner, Robin Kelley also plans to travel with the group and will be a valuable resource. Tina encouraged the Commission to begin thinking about gifts and handouts for the trip.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a) Next regular meeting is scheduled for April 12 at 6:30 PM, in the Steelhead Room. Review of the Religious and Cultural Calendar shows no conflict; however, it was noted that this is school spring break week.
- b) Future Agenda Topic: Outline work plan items for the year ahead and beyond.
- c) City Announcements:
  - The Greater Issaquah Chamber of Commerce is hosting Mayor Pauly's State of the City Address on March 30. Commissioners are welcome to attend.
  - An update was provided on the Capital Improvement Plan efforts underway for April/May.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned 6:56 PM.