



**BAKERSFIELD SISTER CITY
PROJECT CORPORATION**

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
City Hall North
October 4, 2022 at 6:00 pm
In-person & Zoom Meeting
MINUTES**

WELCOME:

I. Call to order – Regina Pryor, President called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

QUORUM ROLL CALL (12 elected members are currently needed for a quorum.
*Emeritus members do not count for this purpose.)

PRESENT:

NAME	Y	N	NAME	Y	N
Goh	X		Park	X	
Besenfelder		X	Pryor	X	
Cha	X		Ramos		X
Choi	Z		Schlaerth	X	
delToro-Diaz		X	Singh	X	
Dillon	X		Sproul	X	
He	X		Stone	X	
Hernandez	Z		Tamsi		X
Hungerford	Z		Verdugo		X
Jhaj		X	*Park E		
Kooner	X		*Park Y		
Martin		X			
McCormick	X		* Urner		

Members present: Bethany Fleisher, Scott & Danielle Andrews

II. SECRETARY’S REPORTS

- A. Minutes: Martin Motion to accept the minutes by McCormick/seconded by Kooner. Approved
- B. Correspondence: Pryor-none

III. TREASURER’S REPORTS: Schlaerth

Motion by Stone to accept the amended 9/6/2022 TR and the 10/4/2022 TR as written/ seconded by McCormick. The 10/4/22 report showed the transfer of \$325 from the General Fund (GF) to the Hefner Scholarship Fund (HSF) and a deposit of \$500 (life membership/ Andrews) to the General fund. New balances: GF=\$19,835.37, HSF= \$3,954.44. The board voted to approve joining the Kern County Hispanic Chamber; cost \$100. Moved by McCormick/seconded by Verdugo. Schlaerth noted that it is now possible to make donations, pay for memberships, etc. online at the BSCPC website, using Zelle. Thank you to Scott Andrews for helping set this up.

IV. MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Goh reported that she is looking forward to being able to travel again. She noted that she has met DR. Igor Calzada, the new Fulbright Scholar in Residence at CSUB, Institute for Basque Studies. DR. Calzada is from St. Jean de Luz. McCormick & Stone will be attending a reception in his honor on 10/10/22.

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Pryor

A. Mayor Goh & President Pryor reported on a meeting that they had with the Consul General from the Chinese Consulate in Los Angeles. They kept the conversation light, focusing on our Sister City relationship (with a slideshow of visits to Cixi looping in the background) and took the delegation to visit the Sister City display in the lobby of City Hall, South.

B. Newsletter this year to feature each sister city – October – Wakayama,
November – Bucheon,

C. Holiday Party for all Sister City Members. Possible location is Riverlakes Ranch Community Center. Board members would provide the food potluck style. We would take a holiday photo to use as a Holiday card to our Sister Cities.

D. Tina Skaer Tribute: Stone reported on the many contributions of Kazuko “Tina” Skaer, longtime member of the board, who passed away September 12, 2022. She was 90 years old. There is an In Memoriam tribute to her on the BSCPC-Members only Facebook page with many photos.

VI. DISCUSSION

A. Next Night Out with Sister City on October 6 at Chalet Basque on Oak Street. Gather at 6:00 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm. .Currently 26 people are coming.

B. Sister City Gardens Festival Committee Meeting –

March 25 – Saturday – 4:00-7:00 PM at Gardens

Instead of a morning/full-day event, it is proposed that we hold a shorter evening event, with entertainment by local groups from 5-6 pm, food provided by food truck(s), a drawing at 6:30 pm, and possibly a 50/50 raffle. To keep costs down Mr. Kooner has volunteered to provide the sound equipment and board members would act as the MC.

C. . Bakersfield Christmas Parade: It was determined that we will participate in the Christmas Parade this year with a vintage car and “marchers” in costume. Date: Thursday, 12/1/2022. The parade starts at 6:00 pm.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A.Amritsar: Kooner

Kooner reported on the historic fact that there are two Punjabi/Sikh candidates running for City Council, Ward 7.

Kooner also asked to change the date of the trip to Amritsar departure sometime after 2/20/2023. McCormick said she would need to check whether that will work for the Mayor’s schedule. The trip itinerary will include 12 days in India. Kooner is to prepare an itinerary that will include expenses, etc. Once the dates have been settled, Kooner will hold an informational meeting—possibly at an Indian restaurant in town.

B.Bucheon: Cha

Cha reported on plans for a visit to Bucheon: May 4-9. The highlight of the visit will be the Boksagol (Peach Blossom) Arts Festival on May 6. (This trip may be combined with a visit to Wakayama—still to be determined.)

Cha also reported that the Mayor of Bucheon has sent a letter inviting Bakersfield Sister City members and others to participate in the Online Relay Challenge to Stop Violence Against Children, sponsored by the Korean Committee for UNICEF. Participant would upload a photo or video of themselves holding a sign with the campaign’s slogan and post the photo on the Bucheon site. Deadline is November 30.

Cha also reported that the Korean consulate was not able to participate in the July 27 Korean War Armistice memorial ceremony. They have now requested a dinner with the Korean War Veterans of Kern County on November 11. Place & time still TBD.

C.Queretaro: Tamsi not present/no report

D.Cixi: Pryor-nothing new to report

E.Wakayama: Stone/Verdugo

Stone reported that Wakayama sent condolences on the passing of Tina Skaer. Also, the International Affairs Division of Wakayama City Hall have asked to be invited to join the BSCPC-Members Only Facebook page. The board agreed to allow this.

F. Other:

Saint-Jean-de-Luz: Pryor stated that McCormick & Stone may have information to report after they attend the CSUB reception for Dr. Igor Calzada.

VIII. OTHER ITEMS

A. Facebook & Website: Hungerford-Both are working well.

B. SoCal: Stone

CYLS: Stone reported on the California Youth Leadership Summit (CYLS)-2022, a FREE Live Stream event on Saturday, November 5 from 5-7 pm. Youth have until October 7 to apply to be panelists online. Anyone may participate as a viewer. One Bakersfield student has applied to be a panelist. <https://socalisticsities.org/register-for-the-2022-california-youth-leadership-summit/>

Stone persuaded the Kern High School Public Information Office to send the information to all schools in the KHSD and contacted teachers, vice-principals, & some club advisors at 7 schools.

CYAE: SoCal Sister Cities is also sponsoring the California Young Artists Expo. High school and college students have until October 31 to submit their art online. The themes are the same as those for the CYLS. <https://socalisticsities.org/submit-your-art-to-the-2022-california-young-artists-expo/> Art will be displayed in a highly visible area of Greter Los Angeles and some works will be shown online during the Live Stream of the CYLS.

US-MEXICO MAYORS' COMMUNITY SUMMIT: October 11-14 in San Diego and Tijuana, Mexico. Bakersfield is not participating.

B. Youth Advisory: Sproul—

Sproul reported that Talking Friends is continuing. He added that he has sent the information about the SoCal CYLS to Bucheon and asked them to share it with their Philippine Sister City of Valenzuela.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Stone: Friendship Force of Kern County are looking for a family with no pets to host a single man who is a member of a group from Ottawa that are visiting Bakersfield from Monday 11/7-11/14.

X. NEXT MEETING

A. Next meeting November 1, at 6PM

B. Schedule of Meetings

November 1

December 6 - no meeting – Holiday Party

January 3

February 7

March 7 – Annual Meeting/Dinner

April 4

May 2

June 6

XI. ADJOURNMENT 7:05 pm-Moved by Cha/seconded by Kooner

**Respectfully submitted,
Susan P. Stone**