



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Type/Purpose: INTERNAL – Zoom Meeting with Membership Committee	
Date: Sep. 17, 2020 7:30 PM Eastern Time	Location: via Zoom

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Attendees:	Kiyoshi Dembo, Chair Naomi Katsumi Patricia Simpson Ken Teramura Kevin Okabe (Executive Director)	Regrets:	None
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2. Acceptance of Agenda

Motion 1:	To approve the agenda with Kevin’s three additional items		
Moved by:	Naomi Katsumi	Seconded by:	Ken Teramura
Result:	Carried		

3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the Last Membership Meeting on July 30, 2019

Motion 2:	To approve the minutes of the July 30 2020 Membership Meeting as presented.		
Moved by:	Ken Teramura	Seconded by:	Naomi Katsumi
Result:	Carried		

4. 2019-2020 Membership Committee Annual report

Kiyoshi submitted a draft of the membership committee report to NAJC AGM. No questions and concerns were expressed by the members.

5. Progress Report

(1) Volunteer appreciation cards and gifts

Kevin provided three options and explained the contents by showing slides.

The committee decided to present two items; one appreciation card which is a 3-D pop up card featuring a Momiji Tree in the Fall with about \$3.50 at whole sale, and a \$10.00 gift card which can be used through the online gift shop of Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre. Total cost, including mailing cost, will be about \$16.00 to \$17.00. Kiyoshi counted the number of committee volunteers 2019-2020 which Karina submitted and found that 53 volunteers (45 volunteers and 8 NEB members, including Brian) would be deserved to receive the token of appreciation.



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- (2) Correspondence from Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre of Montreal (JCCCM)
Kevin reached out to Mr. Don Watanabe regarding his inquiry about joining the NAJC and received Don's email saying that he appreciated Kevin's detailed feedback addressing the questions they had regarding NAJC membership and he circulated Kevin's reply to the other Board members and was waiting for their responses. Don tried to get their responses before our membership committee meeting. However, so far, he has not received them.
- (3) Correspondence from Kelowna Lake-Country Japanese Culture Society
Kiyoshi sent his email to its president and secretary on Wed. Aug. 19, 2020 in Japanese and Mr. Keita Ochiai, president, responded to Kiyoshi on Sat. Aug. 22. In his email Keita appreciated Kevin's support and could build its fundamentals for Japanese Culture focused activities with NAJC endowment fund. However, unfortunately due to covid-19 pandemic they have not been able to implement any activities since March, 2020. Once they will be able to reopen their venue for their activities, they would like to apply for NAJC. Again, he appreciated Kiyoshi's sincere encouragement for them in Japanese. Kevin suggested that Edmonton NAJC would be a good mentor for them.

6. Discussion items

- (1) Capacity Building proposed by Ken
The purpose of this proposal is to build capacity at the member organization level, share best practices and drive value for the members.
The membership committee members made the following suggestions.
 - Topics would vary among each member organization.
 - Japanese Ijusha members should be involved as they may have similar weakness to be improved.
 - Individual members should be involved in this process.Kevin introduced the way of assessment that each organization can make self-evaluation.
Ken will review these suggestions and provide possible process, including survey, at the next meeting.
- (2) The appointment of an interim chair of the membership committee or vice chair
Kevin suggested the appointment would be good to maintain continuity and leadership of the committee. Kiyoshi supported Kevin's idea. The members discussed. Self nomination for the vice chair position and nomination for the chair position were made among members. Kiyoshi, the current chair, suggested we could wait for a new appointment of NEB director as a membership committee chair at the first NEB meeting which will be held on Wednesday October 14.
- (3) To recruit one new member, young leader, from western regions



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Kiyoshi sent email right after the last meeting to representatives in Vancouver and Calgary. However, he has not received any good news from them. Naomi recommended Tim Koba, Lethbridge, would be a good candidate and she will contact him.

- (4) To formalize communications with NAJC membership and to create shared online folders for NAJC committees
Kevin explained NAJC current plans to attain those goals.

7. No other discussion items: Kiyoshi expressed his appreciation for members' cooperation.

8. Adjournment

Motion 4:	To adjourn the membership committee meeting at 8:40 PM Eastern time
Moved by:	Patricia Simpson
Result:	Carried