

SAJETAA MEETING MINUTES

Southern Alberta JETAA Annual General Meeting Minutes

February 21st, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Carrie Fischer at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance

Carrie Fischer [Chair]
Jennifer Kennedy [Events]
John Nguyen
Troy McTavish
Lina Perez
Brandi Johnson
Robin Verall [MOFA Coordinator]

Welcome & Approval of Minutes

The current Chair, Carrie Fischer, opened the meeting and read over the agenda. An item was removed and the remaining agenda was approved.

JETAA Southern Alberta Executive Election

The current executive for 2011-2012, Carrie Fischer and Jennifer Kennedy, were introduced and the executive positions for 2012-2013 were detailed and explained.

- ^ Jessie Bryant (in absentia) was nominated to the position Executive-At-Large. All present voted in favor, and Jessie Bryant was confirmed as the new Executive-At-Large.
- ^ John Nguyen was nominated to the position Media Coordinator. All present voted in favor, and John Nguyen was confirmed as the new Media Coordinator
- ^ Lina Perez was nominated to the position of Secretary. All present voted in favor, and Lina Perez was confirmed as the new Secretary.
- ^ Troy McTavish was nominated to the position of Treasurer. All present voted in favor, and Troy McTavish was confirmed as the new Treasurer.

The new executive committee for JETAA Southern Alberta for 2012-2013 are as follows:

Chair – Carrie Fischer
Events Coordinator – Jennifer Kennedy
Media Coordinator – John Nguyen
Executive-At-Large – Jessie Bryant
Treasurer – Troy McTavish
Secretary – Lina Perez

Financial Report

An outline of where SAJETAA receives its funding was outlined. MOFA provides funding for events and Japanese lessons. CLAIR provides a 'Grant In Aid' to cover overhead costs of running a JET Alumni Association, and provides aid for any funding requests (such as flights to Regional Meetings). Funding is only provided for events with a purpose of promoting Japan, Japanese activities, or nation-wide JET Alumni Association events. There is currently approximately \$2000 CAD in the SAJETAA bank account.

Reflection on 2011-2012 Events

- 1) **Hana Matsuri Fundraiser** – A very successful event with lots of support from the Japanese community. Various activities and performances were held in order to help raise funds for the Japan Earthquake such as Ikebana, piano and singers, a performance from Midnight Taiko, a 50/50 raffle, yukata photo booth, various tables selling goods, and more. Over \$1500 CAD was raised from the event.
- 2) **National Conference** – Held in Vancouver. Carrie Fischer and Jennifer Kennedy attended as the SAJETAA delegates. Topics such as using IT and Social Media to promote regional JETAA associations, and sharing of ideas amongst alumni associations were discussed. A total of \$30,000-

\$40,000 CAD was raised amongst all of the alumni associations was raised and donated to Japanese charities for the Japanese Earthquake.

- 3) **Pre-Departure Orientation** – A full day orientation with alumni members giving presentations to new JET members about tips & tricks on preparing for life in Japan. Gifts such as a leaving handbook, cookbook, and USB sticks with the JETAA logo were given to the new JETs.
- 4) **Barbecue** – Held in mid-August for current alumni and newly-returned JETs as a chance for the new JETs to be introduced to SAJETAA. A garage sale was also held as a chance for alumni to sell their goods.
- 5) **JET 101 + Returning JETs Dinner** – JET 101 was a promotional event held with support from MOFA to promote JET to students and to provide an opportunity for interested students to ask previous JET participants on their experience. The Returning JETs Dinner also gave returning JETs an opportunity to talk about their experience and a chance to meet old alumni.
- 6) **Japanese Classes** – Held weekly from November to February. It was aimed at providing Japanese lessons and refresher courses to maintain Japanese language skills.
- 7) **Annual General Meeting** – Held at Wa's restaurant. The election to elect new executive members was held and the executive committee grew to six members.

Future Events for 2012-2013

- 1) **Hana Matsuri** – Will also be a fundraiser for Smile for Kids Japan. Similar activities as last year. Funding to run the event may have to come from our bank account instead of CLAIR or MOFA.
- 2) **Japanese Classes** – One session will be held from November to February, funded by CLAIR. We have the option of holding another session at another point in the year to be funded by the students, pending if there is enough interest from members to hold the extra session.
- 3) **Tea-Tasting Event** – A 1.5 hour tea-tasting event, \$25/person for up to 20 people. We would need our own venue to hold the event. May be combined with another event.
- 4) **Shinakensen Express Newsletter** – Will continue to be published quarterly and will highlight past and upcoming SAJETAA events, along with JYA, CJCA, and the University of Calgary's JSA. It will continue to include articles, editorials, and photos.
- 5) **National Conference** – SAJETAA will be holding the National Conference in Calgary at the beginning of June. We believe we have enough commitment from the executive and member volunteers to successfully pull off the conference. We will hold another executive meeting at a future date to discuss the division of tasks.

Meeting Adjourned – 8:18pm

New Business

- ⤴ Add the new executive members to the executive mailing list
- ⤴ Choose a date for the executive meeting in March to go over executive position responsibilities, choose a date for the Hana Matsuri, and discuss preparations for the National Conference
- ⤴ Include advertising for new Japanese class in the newsletter