

# **Eugene-Kathmandu Sister City Association**

## **Annual Report**

**July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023 (FY 23)**

### **General program updates**

Association activity has remained limited this past year.

- The Association held a picnic and the Annual Meeting in August 2022 with approximately 40 people in attendance. Six Board members were elected at that time (see Organization Board Members below).
- Kaushal Sapkota, a graduate student in Nonprofit Management at the UO, joined the Board in April bringing total Board membership to seven.
- In November 2022, Ken Beeson met (Zoom call) with a UO School of Journalism and Communications professor who had contacted Mayor Vinis inquiring on a preliminary basis about possible opportunities to connect members of the UO Women's Basketball team with members of the Nepal Women's national team. After discussion, the professor indicated he would talk with UO team members more to determine interest in pursuing contacts.
- In April, Ken Beeson received a request for assistance from a "sound design" company in Colorado applying for a sound art installation in downtown Eugene featuring sounds from Eugene sister cities. Ken was able to connect him with two people from Eugene who would be in Kathmandu for 3 weeks in May and would be able to provide a variety of "city sound" recordings for his use.
- In December, Ken developed a preliminary work plan to assemble an interested group (Board members and others) to review the Association mission, goals and Bylaws and a develop a plan to "restart" the organization. That "restart" included determination of "focus areas" (social, cultural, government exchange (delegations), economic development, etc.) followed by preliminary identification of potential activities/projects for the various focus areas. The concept of the "restart" was in part a result of the October 2022 Council Work Session on Sister Cities where some of the Councilors requested more information on the purpose of the Sister City

program and benefits to Eugene. This work has not progressed but remains a priority for FY 24.

- The Board is currently planning an Association picnic tentatively scheduled in August 2023. This event continues to represent an opportunity to engage the local Nepalese community and other interested people in a social gathering allowing establishment (and re-establishment) of relationships and shared commitment to the Association purpose.
- The Annual Meeting as required under the Association Bylaws would also be held at that time in order to update the community on Association activities and also to elect members of the Board of Directors and Association officers.

Finally, it's noted here that the Association is a 501(c)(3) certified corporation under IRS rules and regulations. All required filings with the IRS and State of Oregon (Oregon Corporation, Oregon Department of Justice CT-12) are current and in order.

### **Evaluation of progress toward FY 23 work plan / objectives**

Progress was limited.

- The annual picnic and Association meeting was held in August 2022.
- The Association did not have a Dashain celebration event in October.
- Five Board meetings have been held in the July 2022 - May 2023 period.
- Limited progress was made on reviewing the Association purpose and Bylaws, and developing a "restart" plan (see note above under General Program Updates).

### **Finances**

\$35,325.43 Bank balance July 1, 2022

\$33,575.43 Bank balance June 30, 2023

FY 23 Expenditures (total - \$1750):

- \$1500 Food for August 2022 Association picnic (paid on August 18, 2022 to Evergreen Indian restaurant)

- \$ 250 Reimburse Ken Beeson (paid on May 8, 2023) (\$160 for picnic site reservation fee (5/27/2022); \$20 for Oregon Department of Justice 2021 CT-12 report fee (5/16/2022); \$50 Oregon Corporation fee (7/25/2022); \$20 for Oregon Department of Justice 2022 CT-12 report fee (5/8/2023))

### **Organization Board Members**

- Ken Beeson (President, Treasurer)
- Kanti Karki, Vicki Elmer, Biju Sharma, Jan Mascall, Kaushal Sapkota (Members at large)

### **Membership Numbers**

The Association does not have a formal membership. Our event invitation list currently includes approximately 100 email addresses and we continue to maintain a Facebook page with 200 followers.

### **Updates on delegation visits or other significant events**

There were no delegation visits in FY 23 and no visits are currently planned.

### **Tracking of number of people engaged (events, etc)**

- August 2022 picnic - approximately 40 people attended (estimated attendance was approximately 60 people)
- no other event held

### **Thank You**

As always, the Association greatly appreciates the on-going support of the City of Eugene. We expect to be working during FY 24 period on revitalizing our organization (see the EKSCA FY 24 Work Plan).