

HMSC Core Committee Meeting
Saturday, November 18, 2017, 4:00 - 5:00pm

Members present: Ken Hartmann, Stuart Walker, Michi Goto, Karl Bergerson, and Kathleen Riggins - Guest attendee: Naomi Shimizu (former committee member)

The New Year's potluck party will be held at Clark Hall, January 27, 1:00 - 4:00. Ken will arrange the entertainment, which will be at 2:30. Set up will be from 12:00pm by committee members, with the doors open from 12:30 to guests. Food will be served from 1:00pm.

With respect to the March or spring presentation, Ken suggested Dr. Yano, the Director General of the Public Health Office for the City of Sapporo, as a potential speaker. He is fluent in English and recently presented in Japanese on recent changes to the emergency help options available for foreigners in 14 languages throughout Japan. Ken asked Michi Goto to consider assisting him in contacting Dr. Yano, to follow up on a verbal invitation to him to speak to our group. Michi said that it might be better to get the SICP to sponsor Dr. Yano and promote it as a bigger event to attract more foreign residents to such a presentation on what the city of Sapporo is planning to improve support for foreign residents and tourists. Michi said that she will discuss this idea with Yukiko Sakai at SICP.

Other possibilities for future meetings were discussed. A local expat is being treated for a sleep disorder by a couple, both fluent in English. He highly recommends them for a possible presentation. Also, there is some interest in having a presentation on palliative care. Ken said that there are a couple of hospitals leading the way with facilities for cancer patients, and several other palliative and hospice care facilities in Sapporo. He mentioned that someone once shared information on the changes to the Japanese system for supporting the elderly (75 and over), and perhaps we should try to contact someone to see what changes, if any, are taking place.

We continued a discussion of creating a vision of an ideal assisted living facility for both expats and Japanese in Sapporo, first suggested by Michi at our June meeting. Perhaps we should make a survey, to gather information. We should contact a professional in this area, such as an academic in architecture. Also, Stuart has a contact in social welfare. There are two aspects to this topic, those being construction of the building and management of the facility. These two are quite different. Michiyo knows the name and address of a facility in Honshu that has many expat residents. We decided to have to do more research and discuss this project more thoroughly at the next Core Committee meeting.

It was reported that Michiyo had a good interview with the reporter from Hokkaido Shimbun. He is willing to run an article about MSC, but would like to have a good photo to go with it. Michi pointed out that it would be nice for HMSC to have a banner to put up at meetings. Everyone agreed so she will order a cloth banner to have ready for the potluck party. Michi asked Ken to send her the banner design based upon our website, which should reflect the name change, indicated below.

The banner size should be the size of a standard table as used in the presentation room. We hope to get some good photos with the banner in the background.

We formally decided that MSC stands for Multinational Support Community. Support replaces "Senior," since we've always had non-senior members and attendees.

The meeting was adjourned.