

The First Yao City Foreign Residents' Council Meeting in FY 2015

[Minutes]

Date & Time: Aug. 20 (Thurs.), 2015, 7:00 pm – 8:45 pm

Place: Committee Room No. 2, 8th Floor, Yao City Office

Council members at the meeting: TOKI Hikaru, OKUNO Tsunehisa, KAWAMOTO Yolanda, ZU Yan Ting, PARK Koon-ae, LE THI KIEU Nga, TAKATSU Nobue, PARK Yanghaeng, HUYNH TU VAN, FUJITO Satomi (titles omitted)

Secretariat (Culture and International Affairs Department): Mr. MATSUSHIMA (Manager), Mr. KAWAZOE (Assistant Manager), Ms. MATSUZUKI

1. Opening of the Council Meeting

2. Letter of Appointment Issued

3. Self-introduction of the Council Members

4. Election of the Chairperson and the Vice-chairperson

Committee member Toki was chosen as the Chairperson, and Committee member Okuno was chosen as the Vice-chairperson.

5. Making the Meetings Open to the Public

Meetings will basically be open to the public.

6. Measures for Foreign Residents

The Secretariat explained the main projects of Yao City Promotion Measures for Internationalization Basic Guidelines, Yao City Plan to Promote a Multicultural Society, and reported the opinions given at the Second Yao City Foreign Residents' Council Meeting.

7. Future Council Meeting Schedule

The meetings will be held twice a year.

The members will exchange opinions about the progress management of and business

related to the Yao City's Promotion of a Multicultural Society.

8. Exchange of Opinions

Progress management of the Promotion of a Multicultural Society in FY 2014
City Life Guidebook

Chairperson Material 5 is a summary of the progress of Promotion of a Multicultural Society in FY 2014, and each department in charge has ranked their progress on a scale of A to D. I would like to ask for each group's opinion on the progress. The Chairperson and the Vice-chairperson will summarize your opinions, which will be shared with the entire Council.

Vice-chairperson Material 5 indicates the City's self-assessment of its progress of Promotion of a Multicultural Society. I would like to ask the citizens to consider this and to exchange opinions on the project's priorities.

Exchange of opinions: Progress management of Promotion of a Multicultural Society in FY 2014

Yao City exchanged opinions on the progress management of the Promotion of a Multicultural Society in Yao City, based on Material 5, which summarizes the progress made in FY 2014.

Group A Summary

Vice-chairperson 1. How should we provide information to foreign residents? If leaflets and other documents are too wordy, they will not be read. We need to consider the contents and their usage.

Information must be provided quickly when a disaster occurs, but area emergency e-mail is not available in multiple languages. Are there any possible ways to provide information to foreign residents, such as linking with the International Exchange Center SNS?

The Palette Newsletter issued by Yasunaka Youth Hall is extremely helpful.

2. Regarding the evaluation of "1-4 Support for work and housing", the figures indicate not only the achievements of foreign residents but also of the entire

project. Would it not be better if we showed the figures only of foreign residents?

Group B Summary

Chairperson

1. Each department currently sets its own evaluation criteria, which should be standardized to some degree. We would like the members of operating divisions to attend the Council Meeting to share their opinions about the evaluation criteria and the project procedures.
2. The documents providing information from the City Office contains excessive information, and should be downsized.
3. Council Meeting procedures should not allow the discussion of general matters but select certain projects to discuss. The materials should be downsized with the inclusion of only selected content.

Exchange of opinions: City Life Guidebook

Ideas for useful information for foreign residents and the effective usage of City Life Guidebook, which is under way, providing basic information about the local government administration to help foreign residents live safely in the City, were presented, and the members exchanged opinions about them.

Group A Summary

Vice-chairperson

1. A large guidebook would be hard to carry around. A 20-page book in A5 format would be handy.
2. It would be convenient if there is Japanese on the left page and English on the right page.
3. The Japanese page should be written in easy Japanese.
4. The maps and information about medical institutions and police boxes should be separated by elementary school border lines.
5. Expressions used throughout guidebook should be carefully selected.

Group B Summary

Chairperson

1. Effective distribution and usage of the City Life Guidebook should be considered.
2. The contents should be better organized. If the guidebook provides

information that is most inquired about (e.g. tax, welfare public assistance, child support, preschools), it will meet the residents' actual needs.

3. "Points to remember in daily life" should be changed to a more considerate expression.

4. Information about children is sorely needed, and more pages should be devoted to it.

5. Self-introductions and interview sheets enjoy low demand.