

EWB PORTLAND MAINE PROFESSIONALS

8/21/2018 MEETING MINUTES

Chapter President Nadia Glucksberg welcomed everyone and provided the following updates:

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP: Thanks to Lars Whelan for accepting the position of Chapter Vice-President, as he is running unopposed. Thanks, too, to Dan Goettel for running for Treasurer. So far there are no challengers for Chapter President or Secretary. If others want to challenge or take on other roles please let us know...but after September, you will be stuck with the same board if folks don't jump in and take on the challenge. None of the board members will be upset and all will fully support the change. The opportunity for paid members to vote will be sent by email in early September.

OTHER EWB NEWS: Nadia reminded folks that the new EWB membership fee as of 9/4/18 is \$35/year for both students and professionals.

She also encouraged anyone interested in attending the national EWB conference in San Francisco (11/8 – 11/11) to register.

FUNDRAISING: Due to poor weather conditions, the annual yard sale is rescheduled for Sat. & Sun. 8/25 and 8/26 – same location and times. Set-up is scheduled for Fri. evening 9/24, followed by a BBQ at Jake Jacobson's house. We're still accepting donated items! We also need help for set-up, selling Sat. & Sun., and packing up n Sun. afternoon. Please contact Kathy Hillman Reed (khillmanreed@gmail.com) if you have items or can work at the yard sale. We need both, so please help!!

EL PROGRESO, ECUADOR: This is a water project that will start as water distribution project. We're getting ready to go back for our first implementation trip later this fall, once the next report (Pre-Implementation Plan) is approved. If you want to get involved, let Baxter Miatke know (baxter.miatke@woodplc.com) as this team meets separately for planning and completing the EWB requirements.

DEBRE BIRHAN, ETHIOPIA: Our portion of this project is the design and construction of a school for 1000 K-12th graders, with support for the latrine design and miscellaneous support as needed. Currently, construction continues and the roof and walls are going up. The goal is to open the school in September. A travel team is planning to visit the worksite in mid-September to document project status. If you are interested on getting involved, let Nadia know (naglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com). Project team meetings occur separately and will provide an update at the chapter meeting this month. Next project meeting immediately follows this chapter meeting.

HAITI BRIDGE TEAM: The Haiti Bridge project is moving forward with the design and construction at Perches and with Cashman purchasing a portable backpack drill rig. We are supporting the geo-technical evaluation as well as the structural calculations. Gabe Sullivan (Cashman) reported that bridge portions will ship in the next two weeks. Nadia indicated the project is now on Slack.com; project worksite is "Haitibridges". Hopefully there are also travel opportunities. Let Nick Dempsey (Nicholas.Dempsey@hdrinc.com) know if you are interested in getting (back) involved.

STEM OUTREACH: With fall approaching, the STEM activities will ramp up again. If anyone is interested in spearheading this topic, please let Nadia Glucksberg (nluckberg@haleyaldrich.com) or Kathy Hillman Reed (khillmanreed@gmail.com) know.

EWB CHAPTER OUTREACH: We continue to support the EWB New Haven Professional Chapter with their sanitation project in Nicaragua. They are fundraising now, with hopes of traveling again, although due to recent events in the country EWB-USA has suspended travel until it is safe

JUNE PRESENTATION

Our speaker was Ron Thompson from the Southern Maine Astronomers club. Ron said he developed his interest in astronomy as a boy, when the Russian satellite Sputnik 1 was successfully launched in October, 1957. He then became especially interested in solar astronomy.

Ron provided a series of very interesting facts and figures about the sun , it's effects on magnetic fields, the potential for Earth to encounter solar flares or coronal mass ejections (CME's), how the aurora borealis & australis happen, as well as what we don't know about the sun or how it relates to Earth. For example, there are approximately 11-year solar cycles (sunspot activity) that have been observed for a long time. However, the last cycle seems to have peaked in 2014, even though the peak was expected in 2018/2019. No one knows why the sunspot activity has decreased before the expected peak.

Ron invited any interested folks to check out the Southern Maine Astronomers website at www.southernmaineastronomers.org. and/or join their monthly meeting at the Planetarium at USM.

NEXT MEETING: NEXT CHAPTER MEETING IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 at 6:00PM at SEA DOG PREWING in SO. PORTLAND, ME.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Chapter Secretary