

EWB Portland Maine Professionals

11/13/17 Meeting Minutes

President Nadia Glucksberg opened the meeting with a welcome to all and updates as follows:

- **HOLIDAY CHEER:** Once again we are supporting a local family that immigrated from Iraq. He is a civil engineer, who supported our troops, and she is a former math professor. Their triplets (Yousif, Zahra and Howraa) are now three years old and going strong. Attached is a table with their modest winter wish list. If you so choose, sign up for item(s) and let Kathy (khillmanreed@gmail.com) know so we can make sure we have everything covered. Then bring the item to the December meeting or drop it off at Haley & Aldrich at 75 Washington Ave, Suite 1A or at Kathy's house. Instructions are also on the attached sheet. Feel free to wrap, or leave it to us.
- **NORTHEAST CONFERENCE:** There will now be a Northeast Regional conference to be hosted by UConn. The conference will be held in February and if anyone is interested in attending and representing our chapter, let us know. Chapter can help with some travel costs or registration.
- **EL PROGRESO:** This is a water project in Ecuador. We've been approved to travel with the first trip planned for January (project assessment) and many others to follow. We are working with Engineers in Action in Ecuador and have started to plan for the assessment trip. If you're interested and want to get involved, contact Neil Franklin (franklinn31@gmail.com) as this team meets separately for planning and completing the EWB requirements. Next project meeting is TBD.
- **HAITI BRIDGE TEAM:** With land issues hampering progression, this team is moving towards support to help with road maintenance to prevent seasonal flooding. If you want to get involved, please let Nick Dempsey know (Nicholas.Dempsey@hdrinc.com). Next meeting is TBD.
- **DEBRE BIRHAN, ETHIOPIA:** Teams are starting to travel again, though there are still US State Dept. warnings. Our portion of this project is the design and construction of a school for 1000 K-12 graders. Angelique has returned from Debre Birhan and has worked with the government for more funding and to continue construction to hopefully open the school by Sept 2018. If you have an interest in joining the team (traveling, or supporting back home) let Nadia know (nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com). Weekly conference calls continue. Project team meetings occur separately; next meeting TBD
- **STEM OUTREACH:** Thanks to Lina Juozelskis and Nick Dempsey who represented EWB at the Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick on 10/28/17 when the library hosted an event called "Explore Tech". This was an event for students to explore engineering and technology with hands-on play for all ages. Nadia Glucksberg and Kathy Hillman Reed also present at Greely

Middle School on 11/17/17. The 7th and 8th graders capped off a study unit on Africa with our presentation to them and a parent sponsored lunch of foods from several African countries. We have a few presentations already set and welcome any ideas you have. We hope to continue to reach out to schools, so if you want to join us at these events, please contact Kathy Hillman Reed (khillmanreed@gmail.com).

- **OTHER CHAPTER SUPPORT.** UMO will be traveling to Ecuador in January and is looking for a mentor to support their water project for at least a week. The New Haven Professionals are looking for support for their sanitation project in Nicaragua in early February. If you are interested in traveling with either chapter, please let Nadia know (nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com).
- **FUNDRAISING:** Portland Uncorked! will happen again in 2018 at the Custom House in Portland on March 8, 2018. Save that date!! We'll need everyone's help to make this a "go to" event for our chapter! Get ready, more info to come soon.

NOVEMBER PRESENTATION

We welcomed Godfrey Wood, who runs the Habitat for Humanity (HFH) for Greater Portland Area. Godfrey gave an insightful presentation of HFH's missions and shared the current builds that are going on in Scarborough, ME.

Godfrey described the creative financial framework HFH uses to support their clients and the creative ways that the Greater Portland HFH is using different economic concepts to ensure that the homes are maintained, mortgages are affordable, and that their clients are able to live productively, giving back to the community.

The new builds are efficient, green, well designed, and very impressive; their clients are well deserving folks who are our neighbors and community members. The Scarborough project is a community of 13 new homes that make up a new neighborhood with median homes values of over \$200K.

Since KHR was not present, these notes do not reflect the detail of the information, but if you were not there, you missed a good one!

NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19th, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the SEA DOG BREWING CO., 125 WESTERN AVE., SO. PORTLAND, ME.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadia Glucksberg, Chapter President

