

EWB Portland Maine Professionals

5-17-2016 Meeting Minutes

In the absence of President Nadia Glucksberg and VP Kathy Kern, Secretary Kathy Hillman Reed opened the meeting by asking for introductions of attendees and reviewing ongoing chapter activities, including:

DEBRE BIRHAN, ETHIOPIA: The foundation is almost complete!!!! It's now time for backfill so we can send teams over for construction of the columns and roof beams. Our 525 Report was submitted and we are preparing to submit our next application to EWB-US.**UPDATE:** Pre-Implementation report for the next phase has been submitted to EWB-USA and approved. TAC presentation scheduled for 6/16/16. Lots of things happening with trips planned for this summer/fall. Please contact Nadia (nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com) or Kevin (KRuss@haleyaldrich.com). Project team meetings occur separately from chapter meetings and all welcome. Travelers wanted!

DORGOBOM, GHANA: Unfortunately, after approx. eight months, the community continues to be unresponsive, or not providing the data we need to be successful. Because of this, we have made the unfortunate decision to close this project. It has taught us that the success of any project lies with the responsiveness and participation of the NGO. We have learned a lot, had some temporary success, and now are looking for a new project – anyone with knowledge or contacts with NGOs, please let us know.

FUNDRAISING: We are looking forward to our next event, the annual yard sale this summer. Keep your eyes/ears open. If you know folks who are moving, downsizing, upgrading, you name it, if they have quality items that they want to donate, we want it and can pick it up anytime! Currently, we are planning the yards sale to be held in July. Once again, Jake has donated his garage for storing items (please only take items that will sell – no true “junk”).

STEM OUTREACH: We are moving forward and working with Scarborough Middle School, marking our 4th day of teaching that engineers and scientists can work outside and away from computers, and more importantly improves public health. If you have the time/interest to join the middle school and high school kids and share how engineering has a direct impact on public health (and is not always behind a desk), contact Kathy Kern (katherine.kern58@gmail.com). **UPDATE:** Nadia Glucksberg & Kathy Hillman Reed did 4 consecutive STEM presentations to 6th graders at Scarborough Middle School on 5/13/16. It was a great experience for us, and the students had a lot of good questions for us.

May Presentation

Kathy Hillman Reed introduced Randy Braley from Navigo, his own management consulting company, to discuss a major desalinization project at the Dead Sea in which he has been involved.

Randy has almost 35 years of experience planning and designing water sector projects in the U.S. and overseas. He spent 30 years at CDM Smith (formerly Camp Dresser & McKee) leading infrastructure and capacity building projects in developing countries and territories such as Egypt, the West Bank and Gaza, Afghanistan, Jordan and Lebanon. For the past 4 years Randy has run his own management consulting company where he has continued to work internationally including coaching the program management

team on a \$1.2 billion water supply dam project in Lesotho, Africa and managing the planning and conceptual design of a \$1 billion mining and environmental project at the Dead Sea.

Randy provided an excellent overview of a salt recovery project for his client Dead Sea Works, which is an Israeli company. He noted that because the Dead Sea is also bordered by Jordan, the Jordanian government is cooperating with the project. He also noted that all information contained in his presentation is in the public domain.

The salt recovery project is a corollary to the processing of minerals from Dead Sea water by Dead Sea Works to ultimately extract potash for the world market. Randy described the multiple factors that had to be considered in the salt recovery process including regional economic, environmental, and cost considerations. At this time, the project needs a decision regarding the best way to transport salt from the southern portion of the Dead Sea to the northern basin – a complex transportation challenge. Several options are being considered, including belt conveyor systems, slurry pumping, and truck transportation, or a combination thereof. The preferred transport method has yet to be approved by Dead Sea Works, which means the project is temporarily on hold.

Other Business

Anyone needing PDH certificates should see or contact Stan Reed (sreed001@maine.rr.com).

Next Meeting

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the event room at the Sea Dog Brew Pub, 125 Western Avenue, South Portland, ME.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Secretary