

## EWB Portland Maine Professionals

### 6/25/2015 Meeting Minutes

VP Matt Randall opened the meeting by reviewing ongoing chapter activities, including:

**Annual EWB Yard Sale:** The date/time of the yard sale is TBD for July or August; however items in good condition are being requested. Items can be dropped off at Jake Jacobson's garage in Cumberland or picked up. Contact Kathy Hillman Reed ([khillmanreed@gmail.com](mailto:khillmanreed@gmail.com)). Stay tuned for more info!

**Portland Uncorked!:** We have decided to move the next Portland Uncorked! event to the spring of 2016 due to 1) Ocean Gateway cruise ship calendar block-outs through October 2015 and 2) our aggressive project travel schedule in the fall. More info to come!

**Dorgobom, Ghana Water Project** – The project team now meets the **1st and 3rd Mondays** of each month at 6PM at HDR. Please contact Kelcy Adamec at [kadamec@hdrinc.com](mailto:kadamec@hdrinc.com) to join the project or receive updates.

**The Community Project – Ethiopia** – We are entering our implementation phase and are getting ready to start building. We need volunteers for all trips coming up this fall. Three – five trips are being scheduled starting in September and running through January 2016. Please contact Rita Cooper at [rcooper207@gmail.com](mailto:rcooper207@gmail.com) for information about travel. The team now meets the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays** of the month.

**USM Chapter Activities** – We are transitioning ownership of the Guatemala project to the USM student chapter.

**Election Cycle** – Chapter elections will occur in the fall. If you are interested in becoming an officer please get in touch with any of our current board members: Kelcy Adamec, Matt Randall, Kathy Hillman Reed or Mike Zanchi.

### June Presentation

Matt Randall and Mike Zanchi presented an overview of their upcoming monitoring trip to Debre Birhan. They will travel starting 7/5/15 and return 7/17/15. The goals of the trip are to resurvey the construction site, observe rain data, and assess the drainage system for repairs and/or stabilization. This time of year is the rainy season in Ethiopia. Matt reported there is an average of 26" of rainfall in July and August. The team needs to determine that the school and latrine designs will stand up to the anticipated amount of rainfall during the rainy season.

Matt and Mike noted that the latrines need additional work. They are currently quite large and there is a cultural issue around being seen using them, since they overlook the soccer field. Matt and Mike will observe and check out the options for dealing with the situation.

Part of the monitoring trip is also to have the construction site laid out correctly for building to start in September. Matt & Mike will work to ensure supplies are ordered and delivered on time. They will be

working with Mekdim, a major player for The Community Project i(TCP) in Debre Birhan, to ensure the CEB machine is being built (make compressed earth blocks). They hope to provide email updates throughout the trip.

### **Other Business**

Brad Roland noted that the Maine Water Environment Association's fall convention will be held in September at Sunday River. He wondered whether EWB-USA would have to approve any EWB presentation. Brad was advised to speak to Rosemary Powers at EWB-USA or Kelcy Adamec because EWB-USA is strict about messages and branding.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held **Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM** in the event room at the Sea Dog Brew Pub, 125 Western Avenue, South Portland, ME. Please visit the Chapter Meetings page FMI at [www.ewbportlandmaine.org](http://www.ewbportlandmaine.org).

**UPDATE:** There was no July PMP chapter meeting; however a "Chapter Updates" email was sent out.

**NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2015 in the event room at the Sea Dog Brew Pub, 125 Western Avenue, South Portland, ME.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Secretary