

## EWB Portland Maine Professionals

### 5/19/2015 Meeting Minutes

Kelcy Adamec opened the meeting by reviewing ongoing chapter activities, including:

**Dorgobom, Ghana Water Project** – The project team now meets the **1st and 3rd Mondays** of each month at 6PM at HDR. After a great photo update from the Dorgobom community, the team is planning an assessment trip later this year to test other water treatment options. Please contact Kelcy Adamec at [kadamec@hdrinc.com](mailto:kadamec@hdrinc.com) to join the project or receive updates.

**The Community Project – Ethiopia** –The Post-Assessment Trip Report from Keith Stone’s trip in March 2015 has been submitted to EWB-USA. The Pre-Monitoring report has been submitted for another trip in July to monitor the latrines and observe the rainy season. Matt Randall and Mike Zanchi are scheduled for this trip. A Pre-Implementation Report is due June 21 for planned school construction trips in September, October and November. The project needs people for these trips. The project team continues to work on final design details, plans and reports for the project. Please contact Rita Cooper at [rcooper207@gmail.com](mailto:rcooper207@gmail.com) to join the project or receive updates. 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 USN student chapter.

**Fundraising** – We are looking into local awareness and fund raising efforts such as restaurant nights. Contact Mike Zanchi at [treasurer@ewbportlandmaine.org](mailto:treasurer@ewbportlandmaine.org) if you would like to help.

We are looking at July dates for our annual Yard Sale, as well as high quality items to sell. More info to come, but please let Kathy Hillman Reed ([khillmanreed@gmail.com](mailto:khillmanreed@gmail.com)) know if you have items to donate for sale.

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

**EWB-USA Awards Program** – If you are interested in submitting a nomination for Regional Premier Chapter, applications are due June 30. See <http://my.ewb-usa.org/events/awards-program> for more information.

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

### **Special Presentation**

Judy Bruenjes spent 6 weeks in Ecuador in 2014 where she saw an opportunity to work on improved access to clean water sources for the community of San Pedro, Misahualli, Napo, Ecuador. Upon her return to the US, Judy worked with another volunteer Charlotte Kaufman from New York City, who had lived with the community during her “gap year”. They produced a video and raised \$10,000 privately to fund a project to provide potable water for the San Pedro community. They hired American engineer Sam Schlesinger to do the initial assessment, the final design, and to oversee construction. Sam is a UVA graduate who relocated to Ecuador to do sustainable community development. The project consists of doubling the capacity of the existing rainwater harvesting system and improving delivery methods.

This project is not an EWB-sponsored program and uses a different model for assessment and implementation. Judy shared photos and information about the geographic, economic and demographic status of the region, as well as copies of her report on a field study and feasibility of potable water for the community. Judy and Charlotte raised the \$10,000 through Indiegogo, a crowd-sourcing site. They expect the community to begin construction in May 2015 and finish in August 2015. The last piece includes an education component on proper sanitation methods that Charlotte will oversee when she visits the community during her summer break in August 2015.

Please contact Judy at [judybruenjes@gmail.com](mailto:judybruenjes@gmail.com) for a copy of her report or more information on her project.

### **May Presentation**

Keith Stone presented an overview of his trip to Debre Birhan in March 2015. The focus of the trip was to oversee grading at the construction site prior to completing the playground and soccer field. The playground pieces were shipped from the US and put in place. He reported the Debre Birhan community appeared to be “a lot more motivated” once the playground was completed because it underscored EWB’s commitment to moving forward with the actual school construction.

Subsequent project trips include a July 2015 monitoring trip (latrines and rainy season) and three implementation trips in the call to complete school construction.

### **Other Business**

None was brought forward.

### **Next Meeting**

**The next meeting will be held THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 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).

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Secretary