



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS-USA
PORTLAND, MAINE PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER

EWB PORTLAND MAINE MEETING MINUTES

**Gorrill-Palmer, Gray
June 14, 2010 6:00-8:00 PM**

Attendees:	Brandon Newman	Nick Champagne
	Nadia Glucksberg	Karen Merritt
	Shanta Keller	Becca Saucier
	Kathy Kern	Kattie Collins
	Will Haskell	Clarissa Livingston
	Tom Gorrill	Sean Higgins, EWB-UM
	Karie Senus	Rita Cooper, EWB-UM (via phone)
	Tim Brandon	Jay Peters (via phone)
	Andy Morrill	

OVERVIEW

The agenda items covered at tonight's meeting were: student chapter update; Dogobom 501 application; marketing update; and breakouts of various discussion groups – EWB-UM, Ghana 501 Application, and Local Community Involvement.

Three new people joined us this evening – Tom Gorrill, Clarissa Livingston, and Karen Merritt. Welcome to the EWB Portland Maine chapter!

Special thanks to Gorrill-Palmer for hosting the meeting and providing pizza, chips, and beverages!

STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATE

Rita, Sean, and Clarissa each provided information regarding the Dulce Vivir wastewater project. Clarissa has been involved with the student chapter since 2008. The student chapter is working to complete a leach field design for the community. A significant design challenge is sludge disposal; there are no honey wagons available and land application may not be feasible. They will complete their final assessment late summer, and will conduct the implementation trip in March 2010.

DOGOBOM PROJECT - 501 APPLICATION

Shanta provided an overview of the application; portions have been completed. Nick and Jay are working with Shanta on the application. Shanta handed out copies to everyone and asked for input and/or additional volunteers – assisting with the application, participating on the project team, or both.



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS-USA
PORTLAND, MAINE PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER

DOGOBOM PROJECT TEAM

Brandon broached the subject of how we will establish the Dogobom Project Team and how that group will interact with the rest of the chapter. We can't have everyone on the Project Team, and we need to ensure that there is effective communication between the Team and the chapter. There was some good discussion, and the consensus was that the Project Team will fall into place fairly quickly.

There was also discussion regarding keeping the student chapter informed on the Dogobom project. They could participate, even if they do not travel in country. Clarissa made a great suggestion; she said the students are very good at research and that we should consider tapping them when we are in need of various information.

Folks interested in being on the Dogobom Project Team should contact Shanta; see contact information provided in Action Items.

MARKETING UPDATE

Our marketing co-chairs Althea and Karie met last week to discuss various ideas of how to get EWB Portland Maine visibility. Kathy joined them as well. Items that were discussed included the new logo/stationery, ways to get the EWB Portland Maine name/mission out there, and fundraising/local community ideas.

Logo/Stationery

- Althea is working up stationery for the chapter, as well as an informational flyer we can hand out.
- She also obtained pricing for a P.O. Box that we can use as our mailing address. Basically the cost would be \$60/yr.
- [In early February – right after we were formally established as a chapter - Althea sent out a news release to various organizations, including: Portland Press Herald, MaineBiz, BDN, Portland Magazine, Portland and Bangor TV networks (ABC, NBC, CBS, WPME) MPBN]

EWB Portland Maine Publicity/Awareness; Fundraising/Local Community Ideas

- tour of mead (honey wine) establishment on Anderson Avenue.
- art auction – local artists
- event at waterfront location – possible music, wine
- collaboration with existing establishments (similar to the Point Five Lounge which on a monthly basis sponsors local organizations by adding \$1 to the price of certain glasses of wine)...Karie provided a very good option along this line - perhaps we could approach a restaurant such as Local 188 to see if they could do the same with an African wine
- working with the school department



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS-USA
PORTLAND, MAINE PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER

Rita said she has an art connection in Portland; her cousin works for the school department.

Will and Andy noted that it would be good to have a booth at Engineers Week. In 2011, it will be held at the Field House at the Gorham Campus.

Other great ideas that were mentioned include:

- stuffing teddy bears for \$\$; we do this as a group event and earnings go to chapter
- having an event at Aquaboggan
- attending a Sea Dogs game
- holding a boat race (concrete?)
- sponsoring a golf tournament (it was noted there are already several out there, difficult to get sponsors/attendance at some of these)
- possible music event or wine event with famous person or someone who would be a draw

[Shanta provided this suggestion after the meeting – something we should think about! The Kennebunkport Conservation Trust is once again planning on introducing children to the Kennebunkport surroundings through its annual Discovery Days program. Events will take place during the weeks of July 12 - 16 and August 9 - 13. We would value your participation. Anyone interested in conducting an activity, or if you have any questions, please contact Tom at the KCT by responding to this e-mail or calling 967-3465.]

MEMBERSHIP

Will announced that he had officially joined our chapter, and asked if we had any other new members within the group.

[Attendance at our meetings is growing steadily each month, and we now have 4 officers and 9 other official chapter members.]

[Kathy recently received a spreadsheet from EWB-USA with all current members of EWB Portland Maine and also a listing various EWB members who reside in Maine: some are members of EWB-UM, some are members of Boston Professionals, and 15 are general members of EWB-USA National. She will email each of the Boston and National members about the existence of our new chapter and invite them to consider joining us.]

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

We broke out informally into three separate discussion groups: Student Chapter Project, Dogobom 501 Application, and Local Community Outreach.

Student Chapter Project

The group briefed a couple of new professionals interested in helping on the current design and circumstances within Dulce Vivir – how professionals and students will interact/cooperate to



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS-USA
PORTLAND, MAINE PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER

complete the design, draft specifications for implementation, and developing a solution for treatment and disposal of the completed system sludge.

Dogobom 501 Application

Shanta met with a group of folks to discuss the application in more detail. They went over the sections that have been completed, the portions that CDDF will be providing, and what we need to write to finish the application.

Local Community Outreach

This group brainstormed and discussed several ideas including:

- engineering support for church renovation mentioned in Portland Sun article (comment made that there won't be any changes to the site itself, just the structure)
- booth exhibit at Bayside World Fair and Market: it was noted that this event just took place, but it would be great to have a booth next year
- trail work: Portland Trails, ME Appalachian Trail bridge crossing...noted that these would provide great service and be a great bonding experience for the chapter
- wetlands cleanup
- water sampling for the Lakes Environmental Association and/or other organization(s)
- various support to Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, watershed groups
- support to Preble Street Resource Center
- support to African organization – there are organizations that help Somalis, maybe we have local organizations that help West Africans/Ghanaians

ACTION ITEMS

- If interested in being actively involved in the Dogobom Project and/or helping with the 501 Application, please email Shanta by July 2nd at shanta.keller@tylin.com
- Rita will provide contact information for her cousin; please email Kathy at katherine.kern@tylin.com

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be held on July 12, 2010 from 6:00-7:30 PM at Fairchild Semiconductor. A reminder with map link and parking/building entrance specifics will be emailed approximately one week prior to this meeting.

I have prepared these meeting minutes to the best of my knowledge. If you have any comments or edits, please forward them to me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Kern