

EWB Portland Maine Professionals

10/21/2014 Meeting Minutes

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

Portland Uncorked! fundraiser – Kelcy encouraged everyone to buy tickets online and tell colleagues & friends about the event as well – get others to buy tickets online. Tickets are available through EWB's chapter website at www.ewbportlandmaine.org. Please contact khillmanreed@gmail.com with any questions.

Dorgobom, Ghana Water Project – The project team typically meets the **2nd and 4th Mondays** of each month at HDR. The next meeting is Nov. 17, 2014. The group is working on the Assessment Report for their next trip and there are spots open to travel to Ghana. Please contact Kelcy Adamec at Kelcy.Adamec@hdrinc.com to join the project or receive updates.

The Community Project – Ethiopia – The project team meets the **1st Tuesday of each month** 5:30PM – 6:30PM. The group is working on the Preliminary Design Report. There is a December student trip planned and an opportunity for someone from our chapter to go. Please contact Rita Cooper at rcooper207@gmail.com to join the project or receive updates.

UNH EWB Student – Kelcy asked people to make an effort to talk to a UNH engineering student who is working on an engineering business project. By the end of the semester, he needs to speak to 100 potential users of his pump technology product for developing countries to get a feel for what they think about it and how he could modify it to meet customer needs. If interested, please contact Ian at ifh2@wildcats.unh.edu.

STEM Outreach – Kelcy noted there is a fresh group of students at King Middle School who would like to have us back to talk to them. Please contact Kelcy at kadamec@gmail.com if you're available & interested in presenting at the school.

We welcomed a new attendee at the meeting: Luke Salvato, a 2011 Bowdoin grad with a degree in geology. He's interested in possibly moving into engineering and would like to talk to people in the chapter.

October Presentation

Kelcy Adamec attended the ASCE Conference in Panama and she and her husband David were able to attend a week-long class in conjunction with the conference. The class dealt with sustainable community projects in developing countries. It was taught by Bernard Amadei, the founder of EWB USA and former director of the Mortenson Center in Engineering for Developing Communities.

Kelcy noted a suggested reading list, including Amadei's new book *Engineering in Sustainable Human Development*, as well as a list of videos that would provide more information on the topic of sustainable development. She suggested that we include the lists on our chapter website.

Kelcy reviewed the key concepts of the class, which reflect how EWB attempts to conduct various projects. The concepts discussed included:

- Poverty is not normal or acceptable to the extent it exists in developing countries
- With regard to any project, need to assess community's capacity to sustain itself day-to-day
- Need to be able to define project success, i.e. what the challenges and issues would be
- Need to view communities as systems – assess environmental, economic, social, cultural, ethical, political issues to solve problems; determine the realities of the situation and what the trade-offs may be.
- Sustainable development and sustainability promote peace
- Projects can result in developing future global engineers

Kelcy gave an overview of a site visit to the El Limóen community and its spring box water supply, as well as the expansion project taking place at the Panama Canal to accommodate larger ships going through the locks.

For additional information or questions, please contact Kelcy at kadamec@gmail.com.

Other Business

None was brought forward.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in December 2014. Date and location to be announced for a holiday get-together. Please visit the Chapter Meetings page FMI at www.ewbportlandmaine.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Secretary