

EWB Portland Maine Professionals

2/20/18 Meeting Minutes

President Nadia Glucksberg opened the meeting with a welcome to all and updates as follows:

FUNDRAISING: Next up is Portland Uncorked! We will hold it at the Custom House in Portland on Thursday, March 8, 2018. We're happy to announce that Haley & Aldrich has issued a challenge to corporate sponsors: H&A will match up to \$10K donated by sponsors in addition to H&A's own contribution of \$10K! We need everyone's help to make this a "go to" event to cap off Engineer's Week. Please sell tickets to co-workers, friends and family. If you have silent auction/raffle items, please contact Lina (ljuozelskis@haleyaldrich.com). If you'd like to help with organizing the event, please contact Kathy Hillman Reed (khillmanreed@gmail.com).

EL PROGRESO, ECUADOR: This is a water project that will start as water distribution project and may grow. The first travel team went to Ecuador for the assessment on January 21, 2018. The second trip is being lined up for this spring. If you're interested and want to get involved, let Neil Franklin know (franklinn31@gmail.com) as this team meets separately for planning and completing the EWB requirements.

DEBRE BIRHAN, ETHIOPIA: Our portion of this project is the design and construction of a school for 1000 K-12th graders, with support for the latrine design and miscellaneous support as needed. Currently construction continues with hope for the first building to have walls this summer. Travel has been challenging due to in-country disruption. A new State of Emergency has been issued by the Ethiopian government, but construction continues. If you have an interest in joining the team (traveling or supporting back home) let Nadia know (nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com). Project team meetings occur separately and will provide an update at the chapter meeting this month.

STEM OUTREACH: Thanks to those who have volunteered and we are ready to start up with schools calling us to present to their students. If you would like to organize, get involved, or just take part, please let Kathy Hillman Reed know (khillmanreed@gmail.com)

HAITI BRIDGE TEAM: The Haiti Bridge Project is back up and running. We're trying to connect with the Cashman lead to identify how we can help and when travel may be possible. Please reach out to Nick Dempsey (Nicholas.dempsey@hdrinc.com).

EWB CHAPTER OUTREACH: We are supporting the EWB New Haven Professional Chapter and joined them for their sanitation project in Nicaragua. FMI, contact Nadia Gluckberg (ngluckberg@haleyaldrich.com).

FEBRUARY PRESENTATION:

Nadia Glucksberg presented an overview of the project team's assessment trip to El Progreso, Ecuador January 21 – 27, 2018. This is a water distribution project for a small farming village of about 50 buildings and 110 residents located in the cloud forest.

She noted the major challenges coming out of the team's assessment trip include 1) how to transport water from basically 3 sources (2 springs and a stream) due to difficult terrain and 2) how to design a water distribution system to meet anticipated growth in the village, once water is regularly available. Potential additional challenges include the fact that a mining company owns mining rights in the area and the area is actively mined. An environmental impact statement is currently being completed.

Nadia described the community's wants as:

- regular access to water for everyone in the village;
- water that is available all year and is safe;
- a system of water meters to charge proportionally to use;
- confirmation of the sequence and timing or installation of a distribution system; and
- an understanding of land access and use for running the distribution system however it is designed.

She noted the project team was able to create a Memorandum of Understanding which all parties signed.

Next steps for the project include completing an Assessment Report including design options for a distribution system, completing an Alternative Analysis report, and targeting dates for the first implementation trip.

Her presentation was followed by a great Q & A session.

NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the SEA DOG BREWING CO., 125 WESTERN AVE., SO. PORTLAND, ME.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Chapter Secretary