

EWB PORTLAND MAINE PROFESSIONALS

1/14/2019 MEETING MINUTES

Chapter President Nadia Glucksberg welcomed everyone and, after introductions, provided the following updates:

A big thanks to Will Turner for making a series of much needed updates to the EWB PMP website!

HOLIDAY CHEER: Thanks to all who donated. Our chapter donated \$700 to the winner of our Survey Monkey poll: Preble Street Resource Center. These donations are always needed to help our neighbors, especially during the long winter months. We hope to have them be guest speakers at our February meeting so folks can learn how our donations truly help. Thanks to all for your generosity!

NEW ENGLAND EWB CONFERENCE – FEB 2. We have been asked to speak at the conference and join in the discussions at UCONN in Storrs, CT. If folks are planning to attend, let Nadia know (nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com) as we can car pool. It would be great to have the PMP chapter well represented. Abstracts were being accepted through Friday Jan 11. There will be three categories for sessions based on submitted abstracts: Skills Lab (1 hr), Technical Breakout Presentation (45min), Topic/Panel Discussion (30min).

FUNDRAISING: With three active projects percolating for our chapter, it is more important than ever to look toward our major fundraiser - **Portland Uncorked! The 2019 date is Thursday, February 28 at the Custom House in Portland. Snow date is Friday, March 1.** The planning process will begin immediately following the chapter meeting, as this is our main event that funds everything we do. We need participants to help with all aspects to make this a successful event. If you can help, please contact Kathy Hillman Reed (khillmanreed@gmail.com).

Nadia noted there will likely be a corporate sponsor challenge issued by Haley & Aldrich again this year for Portland Uncorked!

Nadia also noted there is an opportunity to recycle toner cartridges and receive payment for doing so. The challenge is to find out where they can be taken for recycling. We have learned that the toners from H&A were able to get a few hundred dollars each year (quarter?) and are looking for all our collective companies to save them in hopes to the funds adding up. Kevin Russ has volunteered to lead up the effort in both investigating this opportunity and do organize the collection/donations. He can be reached at kruss@haleyaldrich.com.

DEBRE BIRHAN, ETHIOPIA: The travel team is back home and in the home stretch of the final reporting! For those new to the chapter, 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. We have decided that we have successfully completed this project and once it is officially closed out, we will be open for new opportunities. As always PMP will continue to support The Community Project: Ethiopia (TCPE) as needed, but just not under EWB HQ's umbrella. The South Denver Professional chapter will continue with the latrine project at the school site as well as their Bamboo Experimental Garden. If you

want to join the Slack Channel, to follow the conversations, just let Kathy Hillman Reed (khillmanreed@gmail.com) know.

Now that the Debre Birhan project is closing out, the chapter could take on another project. One major criterion is that there must be a strong NGO in-country for the project to succeed. Another criterion is there must be a PMP member willing to spearhead the project. A list of projects looking for owners is available in Volunteer Village on the EWB-USA website.

If there are members that would like to keep the Debre Birhan project open formally, and wants to lead up the project application (under the program) then please let us know, as we just need a leader for the weekly calls and EWB HQ paperwork.

HAITI BRIDGE TEAM: The Haiti Bridge project is moving forward with weekly teleconferences and has momentum. Cashman's project leads are in country and work as started. Our chapter is supporting the project with geotechnical, structural and hydrology assistance. **HAITI BRIDGE TEAM:** The Haiti Bridge project is moving forward with weekly teleconferences and has momentum. Cashman's project leads are in country and work has started. Our chapter is supporting the project with geotechnical, structural, and hydrology assistance. If you're interested in more information about this project, please contact Nick Dempsey (nicholas.dempsey@hdrinc.com).

MILEMBE SCHOOL, TANZANIA: Africa School House, along with Scattergood architects Pamela Hawke and Scott Teas, have asked for our support again to continue to grow the campus. Following completion of the science labs and a teacher house, the next phase of work is the first girls dormitory for 50 to 100 girls.. They have designed a prototype, self-contained dormitory compound which might first be built on the existing campus, but ultimately be available for construction at other rural secondary schools. The campus includes classes, a dorm building, dining hall and kitchen, composting latrines and showers and a perimeter fence. There's a well on campus, but we would expect to include rainwater collection. We are concerned about wastewater disposal and potential recycling with so many occupants. They have asked for our help, as they have funding to start as soon as February. Anyone interested, please let Nadia know (nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com). Our first meeting (12/5/18) was productive and we are awaiting info/request from them, with a Slack channel set up to facilitate communications.

EL PROGRESO, ECUADOR: The Project Team has returned from El Progreso for the first of the implementation trips. This is a water project that will start as water distribution project and then progress as new phases are identified. There will be more travel opportunities in the spring, so if you want to get involved, let Baxter Miatke know, as this team meets separately (biweekly on Wed.) for planning and completing the EWB requirements. The team communicates on Slack, and if you would like to be included, just let Baxter know (baxter.miatke@woodplce.com).

STEM OUTREACH: If you like kids and being a role model (or like playing hooky) join us. Our chapter is **STILL looking** for a member to lead the school outreach and organize the presentations. They are easy, fun and only take a few hours. If we want to continue to support the local schools, we need someone to take on this effort.

JANUARY PRESENTATION

The Ecuador team presented an overview of their very productive initial implementation trip to the village of El Progreso in mid-November 2018. There were three major tasks for this trip: 1) construct a spring catchment system; 2) pour water storage tank platforms; and 3) survey the area to determine the best routes for piping water to homes in the village.

The team described the high level of community involvement and support, as well as a number of challenges, topography among them, for working on this phase of the project. The catchment system may require two sites, as there is currently disagreement from a land owner through whose property the water runs. It is being addressed by EIA, the in-country NGO.

Next steps for this project include: 1) developing a plan to get the water from the catchment(s) to the 500-liter storage tanks and 2) determine the exact locations of houses in the village and how to run piping to them.

The team meets biweekly for planning purposes. Next meeting is Wed., January 23 at 5:30PM at Haley & Aldrich in Portland.

NEXT PMP CHAPTER MEETING IS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019 at SEA DOG BREWING CO. in SO. PORTLAND, ME from 6:00PM – 7:00PM. PLEASE JOIN US!

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Chapter Secretary