

EWB PORTLAND MAINE PROFESSIONALS

11/19/2019 MEETING MINUTES

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

FUNDRAISING: Planning work has begun for our annual Portland Uncorked! fund raiser. The date is **Thurs., March 12, 2020 at the Custom House in Portland**. Need to acquire silent auction items – artwork, craft items, gift baskets, etc. If you're interested in helping with planning, please contact Kathy Hillman Reed (khillmanreed@gmail.com).

NEW CHAPTER PROJECT: We have the capacity to take on a new project. Volunteer Village has approved projects in the queue or we can identify one and apply for approval. There is the potential for a water project in St Able, Haiti. They have a solid community based organization (CBO) that has been working on recovery efforts on the houses, chapel and roads, following Hurricane Matthew. Renan Pierre-Louis, at Haley & Aldrich, has family in the community and with his brother, leads the CBO. They have asked EWB to consider a water project to convey water from a recently dug borehole to the community. Nadia Glucksberg has offered to lead the project and with Renan (and the CBO) will fill out the application.

HOLIDAY GIVING: Every year our chapter reaches out to help others in the community. We're taking suggestions for this holiday season and all ideas are welcome. Donations from chapter participants will be sent to the chosen charity, once it is selected.

TUTORING OPPORTUNITY: Nasser Rohani provided information about a video he would like to have the chapter view at an upcoming meeting. The video portrays an underground university that exists in Iran, where members of the Bahai faith are openly persecuted, but Bahai students are able to attend online classes through this university. Nasser is hoping perhaps members of our chapter would be willing to tutor and/or teach online classes for these students.

MILEMBE SCHOOL, TANZANIA: No further updates. Pamela Hawkes and Scott Teas continue work with the Africa School House to design and build Milembé School. This is not an official PMP chapter project, but we're helping them with structural engineering and water management. The project is moving ahead with gray water planning. There is a Slack channel for this effort, and meetings as needed. Let Jay Peters know if you are interested in this project (jpeters@haleyaldrich.com)

EL PROGRESO, ECUADOR: This is a water project up in the cloud forest northwest of Quito. We have completed the first and the second implementation trips to run the lines from the source(s) to the tanks. The 3rd trip is scheduled for January 2020, pending the naming the travel team. If you want to get involved, please contact Baxter Miatke (baxterm419@gmail.com) as this team meets separately for planning and completing the EWB requirements. The team communicates on Slack, and if you would like to be included, just let Baxter know.

DEBRE BIRHAN, ETHIOPIA: School has started for this year, with 104 K-2 students enrolled. Efforts are moving forward with the bamboo garden, new latrine design, and then new school buildings and now solar energy and help from Cultivaide. Recent rains have hit, and our support for storm water management were successful! Denver Professionals now have the lead but we are continuing to support. **UPDATE:** Angelique traveled to Debre Birhan in November where she hoped to get latrine excavation started. Before additional classrooms are built, a new latrine building must be constructed to accommodate the increased number of students at the school. Plans are done for dual vault composting and urine diversion. Colleen Kaleda is investigating possible sanitation grants. She has contacted the PMP chapter to see if we know of any sanitation-focused funders we think would be appropriate for us to approach. Please let Nadia know if you have any information, particularly a Rotary Club contact (nglucksberg@haleyaldrich.com).

EWB CHAPTER OUTREACH: In addition to Hartford Professional Chapter (HPC), Harvard, Northeastern, and WPI, we have added Drexel and Boston University to our list of chapters where we are supporting drilling efforts. Stefanie Trice Gill will help the Hartford chapter with Spanish translation of documents for one of their projects. Geologists are needed for the HPC's Trip to Tanzania later in the spring of 2020 – Matt Reynolds plans to travel there. Helena Hollauer plans to join Northeastern for their project in Uganda in December. Tufts University has approached PMP for help with a water treatment project specifically dealing with metals in the water. Lars Whelan has offered to work with Tufts.

If you have interest in supporting any of these opportunities, please contact Nadia at ngluckberg@haleyaldrich.com.

STEM OUTREACH: We supported the Portland Public Schools' STEM expo November 1, which was a fun event for students in grade 1-5. Arne DeFosse will be contacting area schools and hopefully scheduling STEM presentations for them. Thank you, Arne! If you are interested in helping with presentations, please contact Arne (Arne.Defosse@kla.com).

NOVEMBER PRESENTATION

The El Progreso project team presented the status of their water distribution project, giving an overview of the work accomplished to date. The 2nd implementation trip is now targeted for January 15 – 26, 2020. There will be two work teams with 3 – 4 people each. Travel team members are to be confirmed.

The goals of the 2nd implementation trip are:

- Build the 2nd stream catchment;
- Plumb the storage tanks together;
- Install transmission pipeline; and
- Begin surveying for the actual distribution pipes

Since several project team members who travelled previously are not available for the upcoming implementation trip, additional travelers are needed. Contact Baxter Miatke (baxterm419@gmail.com) if you are interested in travelling. The project team meets next on Nov. 20 at 5:30pm at HDR, Inc.

NEXT PMP CHAPTER MEETING IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 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