

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (CVIP)

Board Minutes

March 12, 2014

***March Board Meeting was cancelled due to weather. Attached are Committee Reports.***

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INTRODUCTIONS:

SECRETARY'S MINUTES

TREASURER'S REPORT – David Horner

Accounts at MSU Federal Credit Union

**CVIP February 2014 Treasurer Report**

<b>Shares -07 - Beginning Bank Balance</b>	\$5.75	
Ending balance		\$5.75

<b>IMMA -27 Beginning Bank Balance</b>	\$12,865.26	
Transfer from checking	\$500.00	
Dividend	<u>\$2.03</u>	
Ending Bank Balance		\$13,367.29

<b>Checking - 87 Beginning Bank Balance</b>	\$572.74	
Transfer to IMMA		\$500.00
Withdrawal Draft Acct. Fee		5.00
Ending Bank Balance		<u>67.74</u>
<b>Sub Total CVIP</b>		<b>\$13,440.78</b>

<b>Scholarship Savings 70 Beginning Balance</b>	\$8.36	
Deposits		
Ending Scholarship Bank Balance		<u>\$8.36</u>

<b>TOTAL CVIP Resources</b>		<b>\$13,449.14</b>
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The only activity was moving \$500 from checking to our IMMA account.

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## OISS UPDATE

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORTS – included with minutes**

## IMPORTANT DATES

### **REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE: April – Scholarship**

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Goal 1: Develop training materials including procedural manuals for all leadership positions – officers and position chairs.

Goal 2: Develop program specific policies and procedures (in writing).

Goal 3: Develop and implement a communication/PR/marketing plan.

Goal 4: Complete the strategic planning process.

Goal 5: Identify and engage in advocacy efforts on behalf of the international students/scholars.

Submitted by Secretary, Sue McDonald

## February 2014 CVIP Committee Reports

### International Friendship Program

The International Friendship Program is experiencing a relatively quiet period after completing the matching and orientation process for students and community friends for the 2013-2014 academic year. Some follow-up calls with newly matched friends and/or students have been made. Information regarding this year's matches has been filed in the CVIP office and the updating of the CVIP data base continues.

We are now accepting students' and friends' applications for participation in the program beginning Fall semester, 2014.

--Submitted by Larry Karnes

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### I SPEAK,

Since the last Board meeting, we have furnished speakers for the East Lansing Kiwanis Club, the International Interest Group of the MSU Community Club, Girl Scout World Thinking Day in Holt, the Girl Scout "The World Around Us" event in East Lansing, a fourth grade class at Mt. Hope School in Lansing, the East Lansing Library International Book Club, Allen Senior Coffee Hour, the 9<sup>TH</sup> grade honors World History class at Everett High School in Lansing, and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade social studies classes at Holt Junior High School (during MSU's break!). A big "Thank you" to Nicole Namy for recruiting two of her Lebanese friends to accompany her to the book club assignment!

--Submitted by Carol Towl

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### ISC

Our February ISC sessions were remarkably well attended considering the very bad weather we all had to fight through to get to Friendship House. On February 7, Pedro and Patty Mazeriegos took us on a video bus tour of their country Guatemala. They also did some Latin dancing for us. Barbara Toman led our Valentine's Day session which was attended by over 20. She included special treats, games, and other activities. On February 21, Alejandra and Arcina taught us a lot about Mexico, with the support of their husbands and Alejandra's visiting mom. They ended their session with a wonderful Mexican feast. Our final February meeting was a very informative session on home schooling in the US, presented by Friendship House volunteer Katie Bermeister.

--Submitted by Jan Bernsten

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### Lending Center

January was a rough month. We had to close the Center twice, once because of the snow and cold and once because of illness in our ranks. We need more lamps as well as more pots and pans, same as always. Our "Detailed Procedures" have been updated from the 2011 edition and we've written down a few "Policies" to support our volunteers and clarify our policies in writing for all to see if challenged.

---Submitted by Erika Larson

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### Scholarship

The deadline for the CVIP Scholarship applications for Fall Semester 2014 is 5pm on Monday, April 14. We have been trying to find more ways to get the word out to MSU married international students. A flyer has been made for distribution at the Friday coffee hours. Peggy met with Joy to write up a message to go out in the OISS weekly email to all international students. Based on previous applications, it appears that some international students don't know what the word "spouse" means so we are trying to use husband and wife and married instead. After these attempts we hope we will receive more eligible applications for Fall Semester.

--Submitted by Peggy Arbanas & Dottie Schmidt

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### Volunteer English Tutoring

Some new tutors started this month, bringing the total of classroom and individual tutors to 38.

Each week brings something new to VETP!

One was the First Ever VETP Long-Distance Skype Participant. When Svetozar returned to his native Bulgaria, he said he missed Tom's Thursday afternoon class. So one day I went to class with my iPad and we skyped. We sat the iPad up so that he could see and participate and it was fun. Because of the time difference, we can't do this regularly, we but may try it again when he is free.

A woman applied to be a VETP classroom tutor, but her full-time work in Howell meant that it was difficult to have a class during the week. At the same time, on the waiting list for tutors are a number of women who have accompanied their spouses here. They all seem to live in the same area in Okemos, and many have children, making it hard to come to our VETP classes. So Hannah has started a VETP "outreach" class on Sunday evenings at Schuler Books in Okemos. They have only just begun to meet, but one student wrote to me "I enjoy the meeting and I think it will be helpful to practice my speaking ability."

Another new tutor was matched with a law student from Turkey. The tutor's husband is a lawyer who works for the State Attorney General's Office, and took the student, her husband and a friend on a tour of his office at the Capitol.

I continue to send out web sites and notices of local events in a tutor newsletter, as well as posting these on our Facebook page. (VETP now has 66 "followers" on Facebook.)

--Submitted by Mary Hennessey

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