



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (CVIP)

Board Minutes

March 11, 2015

ATTENDANCE: Peggy Arbanas, Mary Barrett, Pat Barrett, Ruby Bato, Marion Chapman, Karyn Goven, Michael Harrison, Mary Hennessey, Jan Bernsten, Erika Larson, Sue McDonald, Dottie Schmidt, Pam Sievers, Carol Towl. Christine VanNada, Joy Walter – OISS.

Carol Towl, VP, presided over the meeting in Stacey Bieler’s absence. She thanked the office team for snacks and reminded Scholarships and OISS they had refreshments for the April meeting.

She circulated the sign-up sheet for help for the annual luncheon in May.

The minutes of the February meeting were reviewed, passed and will be placed in the files.

David Horner had sent an electronic treasurer’s report. Because he was not there, the report was approved and any further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Highlights of the statement are:

- \$ 3.09 - Dividends
- \$59.00 - Global Festival bounced check was redeemed
- \$50.00 - contribution

**CVIP January - December 2015 Treasurer Reports
Report - February 2015**

Shares -07 - Beginning Balance	\$5.75		
Ending balance			\$5.75

IMMA -27 Beginning Balance	\$13,375.90		
Dividend	\$3.08		
Ending Balance			\$13,378.98

Checking - 87 Beginning Balance	\$12.74		
Ending Balance			\$12.74

Scholarship Savings 70 Beginning Balance	\$5.93		
Bounced check - redeposit	\$59.00		
Contribution	\$50.00		
Dividend	\$0.01		
Ending Balance			\$114.94

TOTAL CVIP Resources

\$13,512.41

Pat Barrett gave an update on the Administrative Committee.

- New computer in the office
- New office volunteer
- Updating membership lists; an ongoing task
- Ruby has offered to manage the website; need new photos for the website

Old Business:

- 1) Erica Larson gave a report on the status of the Spartan Village Redevelopment plan as she attended the meeting. She handed out a map of the proposed layout with family apartments, townhouses, and non-family apartments. This will be open to all full time students, and not an option for scholars who are here for a shorter duration.

There would be space available for the Lending Center at a significant monthly rent.

Erica shared her vision that with the movement of more students to off campus housing, and the lack of designated space for international students, it would be a good time to phase out the LC. She projects the LC to remain open through May, 2016, and she is developing a plan to notify people who have borrowed a lamp and are due their \$5 deposit.

- 2) Carol reported on the Meridian Mall Chinese New Year celebration on Feb 21. This is not a good event for recruiting, but still a good event for us to have a table. Lots of people, noise and fun.
- 3) Pam Sievers presented the recommended changes to the bylaws. She thanked the group for the valuable input in the January board meeting when sensitive recommendations were shared. She then distributed and reviewed handouts with all of the recommended changes. These will be voted on in April.
- 4) 2014-2015 Goals – copies not available so deferred until April.
- 5) Job descriptions – send revised to Stacey if you haven't already done so.

OISS Update – Joy Walter

- The new director, James Dorsett will start on Monday, March 16, and hopefully, will be able to attend the April CVIP board meeting. He will be introduced at the March 27 coffee hour; please let Joy know if you are attending so she can try and arrange a parking pass.
- The Globie Awards are April 22 and nominations are still open.
- March 28 is the Indian Program at Wharton Center which is always very well received.

- April 4 is the Malaysian Program at Erickson Hall kiva – also, very well done.
- Changes to orientation and much will be online. The resource fair at Breslin will remain the same however.
- Pam, Sue McDonald and Cindy Walter will be conducting a workshop on best practices at the Michigan Assoc of International Educators the next day in Mt. Pleasant.
- A Chinese student participated in a recent TED Talk at Wharton Ctr and addressed the topic of “Why do Chinese students have such nice cars?” In short, because of the 1 child rule, families have a lot more resources, and culturally, they show love by sharing the resources with their child, as well as doing what they can to keep them safe.

Carol noted that the ISP Awards should be added to our calendars for Wednesday, March 25 at the Huntington Club (Football Stadium) and recognized Mitsuko Marx as the CVIP recipient of the Homer Higbee award.

New Business:

- 1) Carol distributed draft copies of both program chair and student evaluation forms. Any questions or comments should be sent to Carol or Mary, as these will be voted on in April. It was suggested that the student form be made available online or via Survey Monkey.
- 2) Newsletter articles are due March 20, per Pat B.

Program/ Committee reports:

- Marion Chapman reported on the success of Church Women’s United’s interfaith day.
- Barbara Sawyer Koch, Leadership Chair, reported that we have 1 vacancy yet for VP and the position can be co-chaired.
- Karyn Goven with the A+ English School has an upcoming International Fair with Cornell School in Okemos.

It was also shared that Arline Roe, a long time CVIP member, passed away on March 10.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 so we could vacate the space in time for ULChurch’s noontime Lenten service.

--Respectively submitted by Sue McDonald and Pam Sievers

2014-2015
CVIP COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION

Office: The last month was a quiet one for the Office volunteers, with two exceptions. The first was the unexpected arrival of a new computer, courtesy of the ISP tech office. We now have two really excellent computers with lots of memory and impressive speed.

The second event was the addition of an Office assistant, Katayoun Bahrami. Presently, Katy is helping with the inventory and updating of the Office files, a task begun by Pam Sievers.

Submitted by Pat Barrett for Bernard Pope

Membership: The membership of CVIP totaled 965 at last count, the drop from last month's total of 1003 due to the deletion of 42 VETP inactive volunteers. Many thanks to Mary Hennessey for her careful vetting of her tutor list.

Also this last month, most of the other program chairs were given a list of their volunteers, according to our CVIP Membership list. When they have returned their lists to Membership, with inactive volunteers deleted and new volunteers added, we will have a much better idea of the number and status of our actual membership. Thanks to all who helped us with this effort.

Submitted by Pat Barrett and Ruby Bato

Website: During the last month, very few changes were made to the CVIP website. However, there was one significant event that was very welcome, the announcement by Ruby Bato that she would like to learn how to manage the CVIP website. She met with James White, the ISP website guru, who authorized her to access and make changes in the website programming. Ruby Bato discovered some outdated text on the website and, with her new authorization, was able to edit it herself, under the guidance of Pat Barrett.

Congratulations, Ruby, and welcome to the website manager's club!

Submitted by Pat Barrett

Public Relations: There was nothing of interest to report for the last month. However, Stacey Bieler, PR Chair and Editor of the CVIP Newsletter, called on the program chairs to submit their articles and pictures for the forthcoming Spring 2015 edition. She specified March 20 as the due date for submissions.

Submitted by Stacey Bieler

--submitted by Pat Barrett

I SPEAK

World Language Week at Holt High School was the highlighted activity this month for us! I SPEAK volunteers this year on March 16 and 19 represented the diversity of our group: Katayoun Bahrami (Iran), Saya Kaneda (Japan), Chiadika Nwanze (Nigeria), Sergio Polimante (Brazil), Yamina Lordemus (France), Amal Matovu (Botswana) and Fatma AlSaif (Saudi Arabia).

Members of the International Interest Group of the MSU Community Club enjoyed Xiaoun Zheng's presentation about her homeland, China. Cuong Ngyuen (Vietnam) and Abraham Ceballos (Mexico) facilitated a group discussion comparing their cultures to American culture for a group at Meridian Senior Center. Zubairu Abdulkadir told the Allen Senior coffee hour attendees about Nigerian culture. Chiadika Nwanze (Nigeria) shared her experiences of adjusting to American culture with the women of the Interracial Fellowship. Thanks, Marion Chapman, for connecting us with this very welcoming group!

--submitted by Carol Towl

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

Follow-up contacts were made with friends who were matched with students during Spring Semester but who were unable to attend the Orientation Meeting February 8.

Midge Marrow and Larry Karnes are reviewing the on-line student and friend applications to identify any changes that would improve our interviewing and matching process.

Applications will now be accepted for participation in the program for Fall Semester. Additional local volunteers are still needed and we will be conducting outreach activities during the coming months.

--submitted by Larry Karnes

INTERNATIONAL HOME VISITS

We currently are preparing for Wednesday April 22 Home Visit Tour. At this time we are still short of drivers for the date indicated.

--submitted by Jim Stedman

INTERNATIONAL SPOUSE CONNECTION

Following Spring Break, the International Spouse Connection had two very well attended sessions in March. At the first on March 20, our long-time Korean member, Eunmo Kim, presented a program on flower arranging. We were pretty much blown away by her expertise and her determination to teach us the principles of the art. Many people stayed around an extra hour as she continued creating additional beautiful arrangements. On March 27, we had a special guest, undergraduate Ashley Lathrop, who was doing research on the challenges facing international spouses. Our members talked about their personal experiences in coming to the USA: the cultural shock, the struggles, and the good things as well. Almost every participant shared something, and Ashley was really impressed with the support our members gave each other.

--submitted by Jan Bernsten

LILLIAN KUMATA SCHOLARSHIP

The Lillian Kumata Scholarship Committee has nothing to report this month EXCEPT that Peggy and Dottie are trying hard to sort and clean out the Scholarship drawer in the CVIP office. Our goal is to have it finished by the end of the month (March).

--Submitted by Dottie Schmidt

VOLUNTEER ENGLISH TUTORING

Our 9 classes are continuing to meet. Another class starts March 17.

Five classroom tutors reported their attendance this month- they had 195 people in their classes. Classes ranged in size from 2 to 20 people! Some classes were canceled due to the weather.

Connie Wolfe reports: "Just wanted you to know that my class made Valentine cards for the residents of the Marquette assisted living place. The valentines were very well received & they were most grateful for the art & kind words (in English!) My students learned salutations & a little English card sentiments."

Conversation partners are currently made up of 17 community members, 4 graduate students and 20 undergrads, plus 24 from the TE348 class

So all together, we have 65 conversation partners meeting.

I convened a VETP Advisory Committee, made up of Peggy and Robert Teoh, Ashley Lathrop, Casey Wood, Bob Tobey, Linda Chadderdon and Jim Karpen. I tried to get tutors who represent classroom

tutors, conversation partners, undergrads, community members, etc. Six of us met on March 4 for dinner at Woody's to talk about the Committee. We decided to have a tutor meeting where people can share successes and challenges, make a brochure to advertise VETP, and we brainstormed other ideas.

I worked 43.75 hours in February for VETP. I also put in one hour with Stacey and Carol T. working on our Evaluation goal.

Happy spring!

--submitted by Mary Hennessey
