



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (CVIP)
Board Minutes
October 14, 2015

ATTENDANCE: Peggy Arbanas, Mary Barrett, Stacey Bieler, Marion Chapman Freemire, Starla Dietrich, Rick Emerson, Karen Goven, Mary Hennessey, David Horner, Erika Larson, Pam Sievers, Jim Stedman, Carol Towl, Susan Ventocilla, Marge Weldon.
Joy Walter, OISS.

WELCOME: Stacey Bieler, President
Secretary Susan McDonald is absent. Susan Venticilla is taking minutes.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES – Susan McDonald – M/S/A (motion made/seconded/approved)

TREASURER'S REPORT – David Horner – M/S/A

*Budget Planning – request form for estimated expenses for up coming year.

CVIP Treasurer Report July 1, 2015 - September 30, 2015

Shares 5.75

7-1-15 IMMA Beginning Balance \$13,280.40

Dividends: July \$ 2.82. August \$ 2.51. September \$2.18. Total: \$ 7.51

9-30-15 -IMMA Balance \$13,287.91

7-1-15 Scholarship Balance \$139.98

Dividends - \$.01 for 3 months = \$ 0.03

Donation – August \$25.00 \$25.03

9-30-15 - Scholarship Balance \$165.01

7-1-15 Checking \$26.74

9-30-15 - Balance Checking \$26.74

9-30-2015 Balance – MSUFCU \$13,485.41

Summary

Balance 7-1-2015 - \$13,452.87

Dividends \$ 7.54

Donation \$ 25.00

Balance 9-30-2015 \$13,485.41

OLD BUSINESS

EveryTuesday - Christine VanNada

Women who had no cars would walk and visit, then go and pick up kids.

Changes – more sophisticated, women are more educated, interact with internet.

Attendance has dwindled. The need has shifted. Mary Barrett: people don't want to drive to meet others and ethnicity are segregating.

Proposal – to officially close the program.

Motion passed.

East Lansing Welcomes the World - Stacey

We were placed in back hall. We will be in front next year.

Job Descriptions – Stacey

Two still out

Yunker's Books – Iris Horner

Supports scholarships for international students

NEW BUSINESS

Sign up Sheet for Food is being circulated

Global Festival – Wendy Pope

Time change: 1 – 6 pm

Forty (40) boxes ready

Dottie: seeking volunteers

Pam: sent around sign-up for working at Fest at the board meeting

Future of Lending Center – Starla Dietrich

At EL Welcomes the World President Simon asked if we had found new place for Lending Center.

State News article on September 24, 2015 was passed around.

Erika – Why have international students been gathered at Spartan Village? It is cheaper. Allows short term housing.

Lending Center lends to students who are here for short term. Proximity to students is vital.

Lamps: none have been available for a month.

Stacey: we need a Chair for 2016 and workers

Pam: VIPP need to deal with short term scholar needs. Is it still needed?

Bark S-K, Joy, Harsha and Stacey will meet as a committee.
Other issue is storage for the Gift Shop. Should we rent space, a basement, garage?

2015 -2016 Goals

We have ambitious set of goals.
Everyone to look at list and choose 1 to 2 to work on. Tell Stacey in next week.

Fall Newsletter – Stacey

Already have three articles.

Leadership Committee – need volunteers

Committee Reports

International Friendship Program – 30 matches
Home Visits – need one more home

IMPORTANT DATES

November 4 – Executive Committee
November 11 – Board Meeting
November 22 – Global Festival

Submitted by Secretary, Sue McDonald

2015-2016 CVIP COMMITTEE REPORTS

GLOBAL FESTIVAL/GIFTSHOP – Wendy Pope

Many thanks are due to the board members who helped to sort through our returned items from last year's sale. This was done in mid-June.

In August, Bernard and I made two trips to the World Mission charity to donate some of our rejected items. In September, Gengen, Mona and I met weekly to price and pack the new donations. Recently, Ou Ni has joined our team for which I am very grateful. Also, with help from Jim Stedman several pieces of art have been priced and packed. The letter to friends asking for donations was sent by email and regular mail in early October. Thanks to Pat Barrett and ASAP Printing of Okemos for help with this. Bernard attended an organizational meeting at the Union in September in my absence. A change of room for the Gift Shop and a different time for the Festival were discussed.

Donations of international items are being accepted until the end of October. We have permission to add the University Lutheran Church as an extra drop-off location on week days. Thank you David and Fritz for arranging this.

The Global Festival is on Sunday, November 22 this year.

HOME VISITS – Jim Stedman

Request for Hosts and Drivers went out the week after Labor Day. As of October 1st there were 11 Host Homes for a total of ten groups. Two of the Host Homes will be coordinating for one group who will see two different styles of homes, sizes, decorating, art work and gardening styles so that the individuals of this group have a perspective of different homes and the way they are lived in. Even though there were over 100 students at the beginning of October we feel that this number will decrease to the number of 85 to 90 students by the October 22 when the event occurs. At this time we have 15 drivers including Rick Emerson and Jim Stedman who have coordinated the two homes for one group. We will go to Rick's home first and then to Jim's home for the comparison of two homes.

If the totals work out as they did for the April 2015 Home Tour Visit we should have approximately 90 students involved in the event.

Karyn Goven and Jim Stedman will be meeting October 14 for one hour prior to the Board of Directors Meeting to finalize the Students/Homes and Drivers for the Home Tour Event on Thursday October 22.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP – Larry Karnes

The IFP Committee has been busy during the past two months processing new applications from students and friends, contacting previous friends, and conducting interviews with all new students and friends. Our matching meeting was held on October 2 and we were able to match 32 international students with local friends. The students come from 14 separate countries and include Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD's, as well as Foreign Language Program scholars. The orientation meeting was held on October 11. Additional applications have been received for matching next semester.

We are also looking to recruit a couple new members for the IFP committee to replace former members who have moved on to other activities or jobs outside the area. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Larry.

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

ISC (INTERNATIONAL SPOUSE CONNECTION)– Cheryl Highstreet

ISC has had a very busy summer and fall. Our summer activities included several field trips, including our annual trip to Huhn Strawberry Farm in Eagle for the ever popular strawberry picking activity, a tour of the State Capitol, a picnic at Hawk Island, and a trip to the Children's Garden at MSU. In addition, we

had cooking lessons in how to make Brazilian chocolate as well as Indonesian delicacies. We also enjoyed a cultural exploration of Germany by one of our active members, along with several other miscellaneous presentations.

This fall we have enjoyed a tour of the East Lansing Library, a presentation about Iran by one of our members, a lesson in Japanese origami, and a cultural simulation game. We are looking forward to the remainder of October where we will explore Poland with one of our members, enjoy an old fashioned Halloween Party with history, customs, games and crafts, and our premier event, a tour of The Wharton Center.

Attendance continues to be high, averaging 18-20 members per meeting, usually accompanied by several toddlers and our very own Zaheer, infant son of one of our faithful members from Indonesia, who did take a couple of months off to deliver and get him acclimated. He proves to be very popular and has a whole cadre of international "mothers" willing to hold him so that his "real" mother can enjoy our activities and socialize.

This particular group of spouses is especially active and involved, and it's heartening to see how well the various nationalities cooperate and help each other with understanding English, crafts, answering questions about their cultures, our culture and just plain interacting. Some of their countries may not get along, but they certainly do!

I SPEAK – Carol Towl

A few of last year's volunteers were available during Summer Semester, so I SPEAK furnished some speakers before new students arrived in August. In June, Ashwini Maurya spoke to the students at the Eaton County Youth Facility. In July, Sergio Polimante from Brazil spoke to the senior citizens at Allen Neighborhood Center, and in August Roberta Dankyi from Ghana spoke to this same audience.

About 50 new students and scholars have expressed interest in volunteering for our program thus far. New and former volunteers were invited to a pizza supper and orientation meeting on September 15, with 18 volunteers attending. Eleven volunteers signed up for existing requests at this meeting, getting us off to a good start for Fall Semester! Also attending were a staff member from the Master Card Foundation program and a professor from the Study Abroad program, helping us to reach out to potential speakers from these two programs.

Leadership Committee – Pam Sievers

The Leadership Committee met during the summer to put plans in place for volunteer recruitment, and to begin getting an idea of leadership needs for 2016-17. Committee chairs were surveyed to determine their needs. Based on feedback, our greatest volunteer needs primarily fall into the following categories:

Tutors - VETP

Friends – International Friendship Program

Drivers – I Speak and Home Visits

Other needs are:

Gift Shop – prep work as well as day of

Office support

PR/ newsletter support

We had recruitment materials at the Community Club orientation and ELWW. The better source seems to be the annual letter to faculty and staff from the director of OISS. Our plans to get the message out to other groups are still in the works.

Lastly, we did draft an orientation/ training outline and packet to be used with all new volunteers.

In addition to me, the other committee members are Barb Sawyer-Koch, Mary Hennessey, Peggy Arbanas and Iris Horner.

Lending Center – Erika Larson

The Lending Center appears to be dying a natural death. Our shelves are emptier than they have ever been. We had many donations this fall, but since the crush of visitors in August and September, we have emptied our all our extra supplies from the back room, cleaned up all the items in the sink, and we have even put out the empty tubs we had left after numerous donations. Our lamps are all, like ALL gone and, just as soon as a lamp is returned, it is taken right back out after we check it over.

We had Alice Deck turn in her key after 18 years of volunteering with us. Bob Larson has quit helping. And, numerous other life events have upset our schedule of workers: marriages, the birth of grand babies, death in the family, illness of relatives, surgeries, vacations, you name it.

We originally had planned to shut our doors by the end of April and have everything out of there before May, 2016. If it keeps going like this, we will be closing even earlier. The students have been very disappointed and cannot understand why the university does not understand how important the Lending Center is.

VETP (Volunteers for English Tutoring)– Mary Hennessey

VETP ran all summer – and we were busy!

During June, July and August, we had 5 conversation classes with a total of 150 students attending. Many conversation partners also continued through the summer.

We had a VETP Advisory Committee meeting in June. We discussed having students register for classes, but decided that made it too complicated and much more work. So our classes will continue to be drop in. We also decided to have a tutor meeting early in the school year. There was a lot of interest in having “roundtables” occasionally throughout the year, where tutors could meet for socializing, sharing ideas, etc.

As I mentioned in my June report, one of the international students approached me and asked if VETP would hold a summer coffee hour since OISS wasn't having one in the summer. So we did. We had it on Fridays from 4:00 – 6:00 in June and July. We had help from OISS who supplied the cookies, and VETP tutors, especially Starla and Peggy, and CVIP members Carol and Mickie, who brought treats and stayed and spoke with students. At times there were up to 40 people in the VETP classroom. It was fun.

We started this school year with a tutor meeting in September. 23 tutors attended. We introduced ourselves, Joy gave an overview of the international student picture at MSU, and each person shared a helpful hint or idea they had when working with their students. I compiled the ideas and sent them out to all the tutors.

This fall we have 11 conversation classes. In September, these classes served 246 students. We currently have 42 conversation partners. Some native English speakers have more than one student, so there are 49 international students we are serving as conversation partners.

Hours:

In June: I worked 48 hours.

July: 28 hours

August: 39 hours for VETP, 14.5 for CVIP/OISS (leadership committee, orientations, etc)

September: 57 hours VETP, 9 for CVIP/OISS

#