



**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (CVIP)
Board Minutes**

November 11, 2015 – Final

ATTENDANCE: Peggy Arbanas, Mary Barrett, Jan Bernsten, Stacey Bieler, Marion Chapman Freemire, Starla Dietrich, Rick Emerson, Karyn Goven, Mary Hennessey, David Horner, Larry Karnes, Wendy Pope, Barb Sawyer-Koch, Dottie Schmidt, Pam Sievers, Jim Stedman, Carol Towl.

Joy Walter, OISS.

Guest Speaker: Lynn Bartlett, Greater Lansing United Nations

WELCOME: Stacey Bieler, President

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

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

Just received Bonus Check from last year's Younker's fundraiser.

Marion Chapman Freemire presented CVIP with Church Women's United yearly donation.

CVIP Treasurer Report October, 2015

Dividends: \$2.29

Deposits (Scholarship) \$398.34
Yonkers Bonus
2014 \$48.34
1 donation check -
\$100.00
Yonkers books
2015 - \$250.00

Checking: \$20 to MI for non-profit status

Balances:

\$5.75 Shares
\$13,290.17 IMMA
\$563.38 Scholarship
~~\$6.74~~Checking
\$13,866.04 TOTAL

OISS – Joy Walter

The Essay Contest will be at Broad on Friday from 4-6 pm.

International Education Week article is on Sunday on LansingState Journal.
Global Festival – 30 student groups signed up. Three hours of entertainment. 7-- on Facebook say they are attending.

Admin Services – Pat Barrett

Interview on Friday for new office person.
Purged membership list of non-active or out-of-area names
Mailed 230 newsletters. 720 emailed
Website will be completely revised by end of year.

OLD BUSINESS

Global Festival – Wendy

Bernard has drawn out the placement, of tables - setting for the room.
Friday – noon at the Union in the Lake Huron Room – for unpacking of boxes.
Gift Shop Shifts: 1st – 12:45 to 2:45. 2nd shift – 2:30 – 4:30. 3rd – 4:15 – 6:30.

Younkers Community Day Booklets

Marge has sold \$75 worth of booklets
We have met minimum amount to be eligible for bonus.

Lending Center - Stacey

Stacey attended Friends of OISS meeting. Two suggested talking with V.P. Housing & Food.
Amber has suggested a possible place.
Spartan Village is closing 2017 NOT 2016.

Goals Worksheet 2015/2016 – Stacey

NEW BUSINESS

Training Outline for New Volunteers – Pam Sievers

Discussion of the outline.
Create new section on website for New Volunteer Handouts.

Karyn Goven – A resource list was done by senior students at A+English. She will send out a link.

Committee Reports

International Friendship Program – Former student is being interviewed by *State News*.

January Food – Starla, Dottie, The Barretts

Guest Speaker – Lynn Bartlett, President of GLUNA

Discussed local chapter of Greater Lansing United Nations. Mission is to educate and inspire work of the United Nations.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 19 – Volunteer Luncheon A+ English
November 22 – Global Festival/Gift Shop
December 7 - Executive Committee Meeting
December 14 – Board Meeting

Submitted by Secretary, Sue McDonald

**2015-2016
CVIP COMMITTEE REPORTS**

ADMINISTRATION – Pat Barrett

The CVIP Office has been staffed for approximately 2 hours per day for the past month. Our normal schedule consists of Katayoun Bahrami on Mondays, Oh Ni on Tuesdays, Bernard Pope on Wednesdays, Carol Towl on Thursdays, and a sharing of Fridays between Katy and Bernard. We are always grateful for Pat Barrett for filling in occasionally. We also continue to search for a permanent replacement for Ruby Bato for the Friday slot.

HOME VISITS – Jim Stedman

Within two weeks after the announcement was sent out about the fall Home Visit Program, we had ten hosts for the October 22, 2015 event. I received numerous e-mail replies from hosts who had always participated in the past but were unable to for the date scheduled, but assured me that they wished to be notified again for the spring event. There was a similar response from drivers, but by the end of September, I had to put out an additional request since we were short on drivers. At one time we had over 120 students who were interested in being involved for this event but due to other commitments the number went down to 80 by the time I met with Karyn Govan and her staff to work on the assignment of students to host homes and drivers. The number of students actually decreased to 73 by the day of week of the event. All comments received from students, hosts and drivers have been positive.

We had two Board members who volunteered to host as well as drive their students, one being our President Stacey Biehler and the second person Marge Weldon. Rick Emerson also participated as a host and offered to be a driver if needed. I would like to thank all three of them for being gracious in offering their time, homes and cars for this event.

The one aspect of this fall's Home Tour which was different was that we had one group of students who went to two homes that were only a few miles from each other. One home was a town house condo and the other was a single family home on a subdivision lot. This idea was to show two individual home sizes and styles of decorating to enable the students to see that each family lives a different life style.

The 48 hours prior to the Home Visit was hectic and at times I felt like I was in One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest. I find that relying on email as the primary method of communication has some limitations. I am going to be investigating alternate methods for scheduling volunteers for event participation. I'd also like to remind the Board that I am hopeful to begin training a back-up while preparing for the April 2016 tour. Since November and December are very busy months I have decided that I will invite hosts and drivers for an event at my home on January 9, 2016 as a celebration and thank you for their participation with the Fall Tour.

Also attached is a photograph taken in my back yard of the student group, drivers and me which was sent to me by Liny Cheng, one of the students. I received a set of thank you cards from the students this past week and will bring them to the meeting for those who might be interested in reading what the students had to say.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP – Larry Karnes

The final three "mini-orientations" were completed in October for friends and students who were unable to attend the general orientation on October 11.

Interviews are being conducted for new friends who have applied to the program for participation beginning with Spring semester.

We were contacted by a reporter at *The State News* who is preparing an article about the International Friendship Program. We provided general information to him. He also would like to interview some current and former students in the program and we have identified some students who are willing to do so.

ISC (INTERNATIONAL SPOUSE CONNECTION)– Jan Bernsten (Cheryl Highstreet)

Our members had a variety of experiences during the month of October. We began with a popular session on Oragami--the Japanese paper folding craft--led by a visiting scholar from Japan. Next, we played an intercultural game, Ba Fa Ba Fa, led by Jan and Cheryl. A large group turned out to hear Monika Nawrocka instruct us about her home country Poland. Cheryl led the last session of the month--a rousing Halloween party.

I SPEAK – Carol Towl

Speakers have been busy in October and early November!

- * Presentations at Allen Neighborhood Senior Citizen Coffee Hours:
 - 10/7: Yaqub Mahnashi from Saudi Arabia
 - 11/4: Paola Ximena Romero from Colombia
- *Presentations for Eaton County Youth Facility:
 - 10/2: Michael & Ndeshi Conteh from Namibia; Melina Gabriella from Indonesia
 - 11/6: Xueying Liu from China; Hien Hoang from Vietnam
- * Visit to Meeting of a DeWitt Brownie Troop
 - 10/13: Clare Gapare from Zimbabwe
- * Presentation for the International Interest Group of the MSU Community Club
 - 10/28: Florence Uwimbabazi, Rwanda
- * Presentation for the Interracial Fellowship
 - 11/2: Michael and Ndeshi Conteh, Namibia
- * Presentation for Kiwanis Club of Lansing
 - 11/5: Roselyn Kaihula, Tanzania
- * Presentations for GLUNA's World Friendship Day
 - 11/6: Natasha Dolgoborodova, Russian Federation
- * Presentation for Grand Ledge High School Spanish 4 Class
 - 11/10: Ariana Angarita, Vemezuela

Some things we've learned:

- * The newest generation of laptop computers, projectors and smart boards at various presentation sites require several different types of connector cords or adapters.
 - New school safety policies! Public schools are requiring documentation and screening before visitors are admitted to their buildings, such as the on-line Volunteer Registration Form required by Grand Ledge Public Schools.
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Leadership Committee – Pam Sievers

The Leadership Committee did not meet in October. We did however follow up on all online volunteer applications (which were primarily from students.) More activity in November, I assure you.

VETP (Volunteers for English Tutoring)– Mary Hennessey

This October we had 222 people attending the 11 VETP classes. We had 46 conversation partners. A number of students left this semester, so some tutors have new conversation partners. We also get a couple of inquiries from students or potential tutors every week.

I worked 42.75 hours in October for VETP. I drove for Home Visits: about 3 hours.

WORLD GIFTSHOP – Wendy Pope

Donations have been arriving and we have been meeting weekly to price & pack. We received the great news that Carlos Fuentes is now available to transport our items again. He was able to resolve his conflict for that weekend. Many thanks to Dottie who has been working on community

volunteers and to Joy for student volunteers. Thanks are due to Bernard, too, as he has worked on the layout for the tables, easels, etc in our new location, the Lake Huron Room on the third floor of the Union.

The Global Festival is on Sunday, November 22 from 1 - 6pm.

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