



SEAPAX

BRINGING THE WORLD HOME

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SEAPAX Board Meeting Minutes, March 16, 2014, Antioch University

Present:

Leadership team: Dina Davis, Kate Lawyer, Daniel Poppe, Joana Ramos, Scott Ramos, Shahida Sharir
Excused: Carey Homan, Paulette Thompson

RPCVs: Lillian Baer, Kathy Finau, Jill McKay-Flesich, Mark Hower, Laurel Saito

Guests:

Linh Thai, Community Liaison for Congressman Adam Smith

Nazir Ali, Jenny Ap, Susie Schaefer, Open doors for Multicultural Families

Brooke Knight, YMCA Young Adult Services

1. President Joana Ramos called the meeting to order at 2:31 pm and all present attendees introduced themselves to the group.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting Feb. 16 were approved by a voice vote.
3. Concert Update: SEAPAX has been invited by Steve Schwartz of Upaya Social Ventures to be an Outreach Partner of an Indian music concert April 25 at the Seattle Art Museum. No monetary donation is required, we would simply be asked to promote the concert in our website and newsletter. Joana has been unable to reach Steve Schwartz to discuss. No one on the Board is familiar with the organization. No decision has been made, but opinion was generally favorable. One idea suggested was to seek help of India RPCVs in SEAPAX.
4. NPCA: Chuck McConnell, President of the Columbia River Returned Peace Corps Volunteers has volunteered to be a candidate for the Western Region representative to NPCA. The election process begins on March 25. Paulette Thompson, immediate past NPCA rep from our region, is planning to be at the Nashville Peace Corps Connect conference and will represent SEAPAX on a panel discussion there for which our participation was requested.

5. Upcoming dates:

The next SEAPAX meeting is planned to be Sunday, April 6. This gathering will focus on break-out groups for committee meetings.

The May meeting was suggested to be the Garden Party, hosted by Dina Davis at her home. Final dates were not determined.

The annual Peace Corps nomination party at the UW will be May 14.

No word yet from Seattle Parks as to which date and location is selected for the annual picnic.

6. Joana noted that we have vacancies in leadership positions, notably Vice President, Service Chair, and Grants Chair.

7. Treasurer Carey Homen is unable to attend meetings until after tax season is over. She has indicated that she is willing to respond to requests and inquiries as needed.

8. Communications coordinator Daniel Poppe requested that items to be posted on Facebook, Yahoo list, and the website calendar be sent to him for posting. He will also transfer information from the newsletter upcoming events listings to the website calendar as necessary.

9. Membership – Kate Lawyer has been coordinating with Scott to take over membership duties. Joana pointed out that we should provide an easy link to SEAPAX membership sign up at the Newsletter sign up portal on the website.

10. Fund raising – Carolee was unable to attend the meeting. She will order calendars in May, which will then be for sale at all events until the end of the year.

11. Grants – There are 5 people who have indicated an interest in being on the committee, however none can commit to being the chair. They are working on reviewing the grants guidelines and process.

12. Networking – Kate stated that 6 people have expressed interest in helping plan a networking event in May-June. They are discussing program options and looking for a suitable venue.

13. Speakers Bureau – Shahida expressed concern that some confusion has arisen when requests for speakers have been posted on Yahoo Groups list, short circuiting the SEAPAX Speakers Bureau. It was proposed to have a formal request process and/or a template for advertising the service, and to create a dedicated page on the website. We will talk with the Seattle PC Recruiting Office about coordination with SEAPAX.

14. Social Events - Laurel has arranged for a SEAPAX pub night at Jules Maes in Georgetown for March 27. It is planned to be a monthly event with the venue moving to different areas of the city.

15. Service Events – Dina reported that there was an excellent response to the call for volunteers at the upcoming public radio pledge drive. Twelve SEAPAX volunteers will be on the phones from 5:30 to 9:15pm, Thursday April 3 and on air recognition will be given to SEAPAX.

16. Campout – Scott reported that basic information on the 23rd Western Regional Campout has been published in the newsletter and is available on the website. The Campout committee is discussing logistics and menus. The next important step is setting up a registration system. Brown Paper Tickets and Event Bright are being considered.

The meeting was adjourned at about 3:15 pm.

Following the business meeting and a brief break, Susie Schaefer, Nazir Ali and Jenny Ap from Open Doors for Multi-Cultural Families presented a program on their mission, goals and volunteer opportunities.

Linh Thai, Community Liaison for Congressman Adam Smith introduced himself.

Finally Brooke Knight, RPCV and director of YMCA Young Adult Services discussed the services, goals and opportunities at her organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Dina Davis
SEAPAX Secretary