

WCPCA Board meeting minutes/April 5, 2015, 6 p.m., at home of board member Denise Silfee

PRESENT: Julia Harvey, President; Gary Cornelius, Secretary; Patty McAfee, Treasurer; Juliet Bender, Vice President; Denise Silfee, James Cloutier, Wayne Thompson, Laurette Garner (UO PC recruiter), Charles Goldsmith, WCPCA member

- 1) The membership report prepared by Nicky and shared via email (she was unable to attend the meeting) was reviewed. WCPCA member Dorothy Soper has volunteered to help Nicky update the membership directory.
- 2) Wayne reported on the work of a board fundraising committee that has met one time to brainstorm and potentially carry out ideas for increasing income. Ideas include:
 - a. Another showing of the Posh Corps film, in early October (1st, 8th or 15th). Gary will check with the producer/director, Alan Toth of Oakland, CA re: his availability.
 - b. A musical event to which admission would be charged.
 - c. A speaker, preferably one relatively well-known, that would attract many people.
 - d. A curry dinner event, which has been successful in years past, that might be in combination with music, and perhaps held on Dec. 5th, 2015, the end of “Dead Week” at UO, at a venue near the university, to attract students. Central Presbyterian Church on Patterson is a possible venue. Patty is following up on this. Member Jeem Peterson, known for his curry-cooking skills, could be recruited to help with such an event.
 - e. An auction (which could be held in conjunction with another event).
- 3) James reminded all that Tuesday is the Chef’s Night Out event at the Hult Center, when several of us volunteer to help clean up after. This is a fundraiser for Food for Lane County. Arrive at 8:15, enter at 6th Avenue door.
- 4) It’s time to organize this year’s “nom party” for new potential volunteers, but now that many recruitment activities are managed by PC Hdqtrrs in Washington, DC it will be somewhat more difficult to organize since it

won't be as readily apparent to us as it has been in the past who the nominees are. Be that as it may, Laurette has reserved the Longhouse for Tuesday, May 26, 2015, 6-9 pm for the traditional potluck, with some pizza or rice bowls added. For a program we can have RPCVs rotate among tables to tell nominees about various aspects of service, such as housing, food, culture, what PST is like, etc. Perhaps a short PC video could be shown? Denise will organize, with help.

- 5) Denise proposes that we consider sponsoring an "international service scholarship" to help a local high school student travel to a foreign country to perform public service for a couple of weeks, or so, and expand their thinking about other cultures, all in the furtherance of peace and promoting international relations. They could write an essay as part of the application process, and share the experience upon return. It would be aimed at helping a low-income student who could otherwise never afford such an opportunity. She estimates it would cost around \$2,200-2,600. The student could be required to come up with some of the cost. Gary and Patty support the idea, while Wayne argues strongly against it, saying he believes our limited funds would go further if spent in other, developing, nations to support projects and people in other countries, not Americans. "That is our mission," Wayne says.

There is spirited discussion, but no motion. There is consensus, except for Wayne, that we should continue to discuss and explore the idea going forward, understanding that if we decided to take on such a project it probably wouldn't happen for a couple of years.

- 6) Though not present, Nicky asked us to discuss her earlier offer to host a WCPA event/visit to the Berggren Demonstration Farm where she lives in rural Springfield. This could be attractive as a family event, and people could picnic or otherwise socialize after a tour, or we could meet somewhere for dinner. There is interest expressed and Sunday, June 7 is offered as a possible date. Denise will f-u with Nicky.

- 7) Patty distributed a treasurer's report. Our current balance is \$5,160.51.
- 8) Julia reports that it seems as if there will not be a regional meeting this year for RPCV chapters in the Northwest. There are a couple of campouts planned for June and August that are open to all RPCVs and their families in the Northwest. Details in the last newsletter.
- 9) The next potluck will be April 24th at Charlie and Juliet's home. There will be three speakers as the program portion of the event -- people who recently traveled to Nepal, Cuba and Myanmar.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 2, 2015 at New Day Bakery, 6 p.m.

ADDENDUM: On 3/23/15 a majority of board members – Gary, Denise, Wayne, Julia, and James – voted to fund a Tanzania project by an Oregon volunteer, Diantha Hull of Eugene, to teach women villagers to sew. The balance needed to fully fund the approximately \$700 project was \$204.02, which we provided.