

Michigan Council, HI-USA  
Board Meeting  
April 10, 2007  
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER -- 6:32 pm

Present: Deb Bell, Norwood Catron, Sally Janacek, John Prusak, Srini Racha, Joan Smykowski, Martha Spear, Sue Trudeau. Absent: Mike Willihnganz. Guest: Al Heavner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Martha Spear; March 20, 2007 minutes were presented. Deb moved, Sally seconded, that the minutes be approved as submitted. Motion passed.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Sue Trudeau; she shared the 6 months (year-end) budget report (in living color!) Net income October 1 through April 10 was \$9600; balance in checking/savings accounts totals \$72,852; only income is from the Nail Shop and Hikes/Bikes but we are holding our own with donations and National (HI-USA) funding. See also Finance Committee report.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Sue/Srini; Sue reviewed the Finance Committee report, sent earlier by email. She noted that \$1357.00 was deducted as a one-time asset purchase for laptop computer and LCD projectors. The committee meets again April 10, 2007. Srini will assume treasurer responsibilities from that date forward.

The Finance Committee discussed several important questions: Why do we raise money? How should we spend it? How much money should we save? It was agreed that we shouldn’t be afraid to spend money as long as the expenditures are Mission-based. Sue asked that Board Members **bring ideas for spending money to the May meeting**.

Sue noted that our financial software is outdated. The 2007 version of QuickBooks would be a great boon. After discussion, Sally moved, Martha seconded, that **Sue Trudeau purchase the 2007 QuickBooks for 990 Nonprofit Organizations**; motion passed.

ODOM (“Opening Doors, Opening Minds”) COMMITTEE – Joan/Martha – report sent earlier by email. Several new programs on the horizon, including two at Wayne State University.

MARKETING COMMITTEE – Deb/Norwood – report sent earlier by email. A general informational brochure in the works. The committee hopes to start a new partnership each year. Srini suggested we make a pitch to Ford Motor Co. (e.g., take young people to Chicago Hostel with Ford providing the transportation.) He will work further with Deb and Norwood.

The Committee is considering revising the HI-MI web page. We looked at Web pages from various Councils. After discussion, it was agreed that **the Committee will change the HI-MI web page format** to more closely resemble the HI-USA home page (to reinforce brand recognition/loyalty) In addition, they will change the HI-MI web page to include more user-friendly links, pictures of travel or mission-based activities, the current Board minutes, and interactive user forums (YahooGroups? Wikis? Blogs? to be determined) **Sally will approach HI-USA about creating better links to Council web pages as well as procuring better placement in Google ‘hostel’ key word searches.**

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR REPORT -- Joan Smykowski. Distributed report.

She has been working with the Wayne State University Hostelling Club and, in a related development, a WSU student has applied to be a participant in the HI-USA 6-country, 16-day exchange program to Tunisia. If selected, this student would receive \$750 from HI-USA. Sally moved, Norwood seconded, that we give \$750 in matching funds to support this person; Martha amended the motion to include the

conditions that she document her trip with digital/video pictures and give at least two presentations locally. After discussion (this is an “investment not just an expenditure”) the motion passed.

## OLD BUSINESS

Deb confirmed that Ron Meyers’ building has been sold. We are waiting to hear from the buyer. **Deb and Sally will be meeting with Bill Evans soon. Martha will send her realtor information to Deb and Bill.**

National Compliance for National Pool qualification – HI-MI is in full compliance with HI-USA with both our programs and grants-seeking efforts; stay tuned for more at the May meeting.

Girl Scouts Budget Request – Joan; at March meeting she suggested we pursue hiring someone part-time to oversee Girl Scout programming efforts. See New Business.

## NEW BUSINESS

HI-USA Grant Opportunities -- HI-USA is offering two grants:

1) Common Program (WT101) “Training Institutes” Grant -- April 30 deadline -- ≤\$840 -- details: ≤\$250 to send 1-2 people to (ODOM Program) Training Institutes this summer, plus registration costs, plus \$100 incidental costs for local program delivery.

2) Council Program Grant Program -- May 15 deadline -- ≤\$4000 -- details: to bring ODOM programs to new audiences. Joan suggests we use this grant to get financial support to hire someone to increase our ODOM programming to young people, including, but not limited to, the Girl Scouts.

After much discussion, Sally moved, Martha seconded, that **Joan and Sue pursue these grants;** motion passed.

Girl Scout Advertisements -- Joan suggested HI-MI place ads in local Girl Scouts program books (Leaders use these books to plan their up-coming calendars.) She feels ads would increase WT101 program possibilities as well as make scheduling more manageable. After discussion, Martha moved, Deb seconded, that **we fund Joan up to \$350 to develop and place these ads.** The motion passed.

Paddle to the Symphony update -- Al Heavner, Sue Trudeau. The date is set for this year’s “Paddle”: Friday, July 13 (concert at 7:30 pm.) New this year: we must use Crank’s Catering, per Kensington Park dictates. **All Board Members were encouraged to volunteer for this important HI-MI fund-raiser.** If interested, contact Sue.

Deb suggested we acknowledge HI-USA and Jill Fixler for their help in keeping us afloat. **She will send a thank you letter to HI-USA and Jill for their support.**

Open invitation to attend “Axis of Evil” Comedy Tour, April 28, 7:00 pm, RO Music Theater; tickets are \$39.50; a light-hearted look at ‘global issues’ (could this qualify as Mission-based programming?!) For more information go to <http://www.axisofevilcomedy.com/> **If interested, email or call Sue.**

NEXT Meeting: Tuesday, May 8; location tba. **Srini will contact Sue re: possible meeting place.**

ADJOURNMENT – Sally moved, Deb seconded; we are adjourned at 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted, Martha Spear, Secretary