

THE ICELANDIC CLUB OF GREATER SEATTLE

Board Meeting Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011

Meeting was held at the home of Anna Hauksdottir and called to order at 6pm

Those officers and trustees present: Henry Bjornsson, Tota Sellars, Anna Hauksdottir, Agust Helgason, Jens Eysteinnsson, Laura Hanson, Chuck Mulberg, Linda Russo, Brynjar Halldorsson, Markus Rook

Officers and Trustees Absent: Birna Sigurbjornsdottir

The minutes to the March Meeting were read by Markus Rook, Recording Secretary. With the exception of one correction, that the Event Chairperson not only is in charge of making decisions during the Event of their charge, but also of presenting a budget to the Board for approval, the minutes were approved by the Board.

**Treasurer's Report:** (as presented by Chuck Mulberg, Treasurer)

As of 4/22/11:

Checking--\$11866.92; Icelandic Room--\$5219.54; Scholarship--\$7918.68; Total—25005.14

Approximately \$2000 (Raffle Tickets) was deposited into the Scholarship Fund, this will be transferred into the General Fund. **CORRECTION:** Approximately **\$987.00** in raffle tickets was deposited into the Scholarship Fund.

Quick Books has been started, the “financials” will be ready for presentation at the May Board Meeting.

We were “double invoiced” for a Corkage Fee (Thorrablot) of \$273.75. Though we had paid this fee back in January, we were again charged (and promptly paid for) this fee by mistake in April. This oversight was acknowledged by the Swedish Cultural Center, and we will receive this payment back in the form of a check for the stated amount.

As reported the Treasurer's Report was approved by the Board.

**Membership Secretary's Report:** (as presented by Linda Russo, Membership Secretary)

There are currently 300 individuals on the membership mailing list. 136 membership applications have been turned in. There are 197 paid members—this includes not only members, but also those family members paid for and listed as add-ons on individual applications. Names and addresses have been updated. Linda stated that she has yet to make up lists separating those who have paid from those who have not paid for membership.

Suggestion was made that we don't send out newsletters to those who have not paid, for it is costly to have them sent back to us as “Return to Sender”. The question is really: is the cost worth sending them (the applications) in Bulk, which we currently do for \$120 (200 applications). A counter argument was made of how are we then to reach out to those who haven't paid if we don't send them anything.

Currently, Chuck and Linda are creating an online list on Googledocs; when applications are sent in, they are scanned and documented, so that an electronic copy can be made of all applications received.

Linda stated that she and future Membership Secretaries need to have an updated list by December so it will be known to whom Renewal Notices are to be sent out. According to current By-Laws, Renewal Notices are to be

sent out in April, as they have been this month. A total of 168 notices have been sent out (at approx. \$128); no responses have been received as of yet.

According to current By-Laws, new members to TICGS are to receive as part of their membership: a membership card, newsletter, and membership directory. However, it has not been since 2006/7 that a membership directory has been made available to new members. **NOTE:** This matter needs to be made New Business for the May Meeting. Linda has sent out the membership cards, however, she wants to run the membership directory issue by the Board—if the Board wishes Not to send out the Directory, presumably to save the cost of doing so, this decision will need to become an amendment to the Club By-Laws.

Tad Davis needs an updated membership list so that he can (with Board Approval) put said list on the website. If this is indeed done, it will come with the stipulation that **only paid members** would have access to this online directory. Also, from a secure part of TICGS website, Notices/Mailings could be mailed out to those in the online Directory. Suggestion was made that Tad Davis could come to a future Board Meeting to “walk” the members of the Board through the website to see “how it works.”

Linda made up a document stating the Standard Operating Procedures for the Officer Position of Membership Secretary. This SOP was given to the Recording Secretary to store in a folder. Suggestion was also made that each officer of the Board make up a SOP, so that this can be available for reference by future officers, as well as be made available on the TICGS website.

The Membership Secretary Report as presented was approved by the Board.

#### **Old Business:**

Thorrablót/Letter---Letter was sent to Alene Moris by Henry illustrating exactly what was discussed at the last Meeting. It is the opinion of the Board that Thorrablót is indeed a party, not something to be found in a Lecture Hall, so this very opinion will be considered in future decisions regarding what is to be and not to be part of a Thorrablót Program. Henry has made an amended copy of Thor’s speech, which will be delivered to Laura for submittance into the upcoming newsletter. It will take up less than half a page.

Norwegian parade May 17<sup>th</sup>—Fred Freeman is not being considered for Event Chairperson.

Paperwork needs to be filled out. The Board is considering Bjarni as the Event Chairperson for this event, however, he does need to pay his dues FIRST.

If we are to use vehicles (they are discouraged), we will need proof of insurance and a signed waiver from everyone who participated, this to be turned in on the day of the event.

June 17<sup>th</sup>—On this date in 2011, it will be the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Jon Sigursson

Birna Sigurbjörnsdóttir, who was previously considered for the position of Event Chairperson for this event, due to having not yet responded to repeated calls and emails from Henry Björnsson, is no longer being considered for this position.

Gusti Helgason and Jens Eysteinnsson were selected by the Board to Co-Chair this event, and will begin investigating possible locations and dates for this event. A committee will need to be formed. Henry Björnsson has already offered his services.

Due to past trouble with both elected princesses and scholarship applicants being able to attend in and around the date of June 17<sup>th</sup>, Henry made the proposal that it be held on either Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> or Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup>, so not to be in conflict with graduations. **Note:** In nature of the rules stated in the application, scholarship winners have to be present in order to receive said scholarship. The auditorium at NHM is available on June 24, 25, and 26<sup>th</sup> after 4pm. Suggestion was made for the Church of Our Redeemer as a possible location.

Food—to be gotten from Costco, IKEA

Fjallkona—In need of an applicant. Alene Moris was suggested; she is a paid member, of Icelandic descent, and noted public speaker. **Note:** Lone Stipulation for becoming a Fjallkona—need to be able to recite an Icelandic poem.

On average, approximately 100 attend with admission commonly \$30-35.

The Program in the past has been: dinner, Fjallkona speech, announcement of princesses and scholarship winner, singing.

Question was asked: to whom are we trying to cater to? To what generation? Usually mostly mid-30s and older attend.

Another suggestion of possible venue—Virginia 5. This is the same boat cruise as a past Leif Eiriksson celebration. The cost is \$1500 an hour (approx.)

Princess Selection--A princess and one alternate is needed to be selected. **Note:** Princess must be at least 16yrs; princess in waiting can be 15yrs. **CORRECTION:** According to TICGS website, there is **no age requirement** specified.

**ADDITIONS TO APRIL MINUTES:** Anna Hauksdottir is in charge of the Princess Committee; Total Sellars is in charge of Scholarships. **Note:** Scholarship applicants are **required to be High School Seniors.**

August Picnic—Hot dogs from Iceland will be ordered.

2012 Thorrablot Committee—A committee needs to be formed. As for a possible location, advertisements need to be sent out to various locations to create “bidding” between venues, so that we can compare offers. The Nordic Heritage Museum wants TICGS back for the next Thorrablot. Other possible venues: Leif Eiriksson Lodge and Swedish Cultural Center. **Note:** This item will remain on all future agendas as Old Business.

INL Convention—TICGS will have 3 votes. Henry needs signature from Linda Russo to take with him to Edmonton. Henry will also need to pass the storage key to the next Event Chairperson(s) so they will have access to the storage in his absence.

#### **New Business:**

Newsletter Cost—The cost of mailing the previous newsletter was \$760 via Fed-Ex. This bill was paid for by Chuck. **CORRECTION:** The **cost of printing** the previous newsletter was \$760 via Fed-Ex.

Color advertising has run-out, so advertisements in the upcoming newsletter will be in black and white. Since the newsletter needs to be done in May (in time for June 17<sup>th</sup> Celebration), this issue will be smaller than previous newsletters. Laura Hanson has requested both scholarship winner and princess information with photos to be put in the upcoming newsletter. Therein will be the flier and announcement of the June 17<sup>th</sup> celebration, August Picnic

(8/13), Membership Renewal Information, and Obituaries. **CORRECTION:** Scholarship winner **will not** be in the newsletter, **will be announced at June 17<sup>th</sup> Celebration.**

Motion was made for Chuck to look into the Actual cost of the newsletters.

Whole Foods has finally made good on their payment for past advertising.

Artwork in Iceland Room—Painted artwork done on driftwood, 32 pieces total, were given as a donation to TICGS in 1971. These items need to be sold or else will become property of the NHM. Document was signed by the artist giving TICGS the right to exhibit and sell these items, which have been on a shelf in storage at the NHM since being donated in 1971.

A suggestion was made that an auction of these items could take place during the June 17<sup>th</sup> event. The upcoming newsletter could make mention of this.

After over 3 hours of deliberation, motion to adjourn was made and enthusiastically approved by all.

TICGS April Board Meeting Minutes dutifully taken, organized, and presented by Markus Rook, Recording Secretary (5/6/11) **Corrections to the above minutes were made at the May 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.**