

THE ICELANDIC CLUB OF GREATER SEATTLE

Board Meeting Friday, January 14, 2011

Present: Anna Hauksdottir, Tota Sellars, Henry Bjornsson, Linda Russo, Markus Rook, Brynjar Halldorsson (Club Member)

December Income: Gross \$760.00 (Jolabal) – Expenses \$118.03 (?) = Net Income \$641.97

Club Account as of December 31, 2010: \$6610.00; Icelandic Room \$5172.88; Scholarship Fund \$6485.57

Corrections to December Board Meeting Minutes:

Annual Meeting: Regarding the election of someone new to be in charge of compiling a list of potential Trustees, to this a position that is **voted on by the Board**, and not at the Annual Meeting. According to the Club By-Laws, **a committee of 3 club members not on the current board** is to be chosen by the Board for the sole purpose of selecting potential Trustees.

Criteria for Snorri Program Scholarship Applicants: Discussion was made concerning any special criteria that have to be met in order to qualify for a scholarship through the Snorri Program. It was agreed that not only must all applicants meet the criteria presently in place for the Snorri Program in Iceland, but also be **between the ages of 18 and 26 yrs old**, and either be members of The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle or be the children of TICGS members.

Old Business:

A proposal was made and Seconded by the Board at the Dec 10 Meeting that \$800 (estimated) be taken out of the Iceland Room Fund to purchase photographs of Confirmants (children who have been confirmed) into the Calvary Lutheran Church, for the expressed purpose of displaying the pictorial history (as far back as the 1920s) of the confirmation ceremonies that have been performed there. However, at the January 14th meeting questions were raised by Board Members, who were not present for the Dec 10th Meeting, concerning the actual monetary amount to be used. Margret Hlastala who brought forward the Dec 10th Proposal was out of town, thus not available to provide further details. Therefore, the actual monetary amount, if any, will be discussed at the February Board Meeting. A proposal was also made for perhaps requesting that these photographs be donated to TICGS by the Our Redeemer Church, who currently owns said photographs.

Thorrablot:

Carrie Heiser is in charge of the princess dresses.

Cost of Tickets: Pre-paid prices are \$65 for members, \$70 for non-members; \$70 is the price at the door

Annual Meeting:

Note regarding Board Member Positions: Officer Positions are for one-year term; Board Member Positions are for a 3-year term.

Resigning from Current Position as of 12/31/10: Carrie Heiser as Membership Secretary; Kathi Olson as Recording Secretary

Nominees for Re-Election: Henry Bjornsson for President; Anna Hauksdottir for Vice President;

Nominees for Trustees: Tota Sellars, Brynjar Halldorsson, Agust Helgason, Jens Eysteinnsson, and Birna Sigurbjornsdottir

Nominees for Officer Positions: Linda Russo for Membership Secretary; Markus Rook for Recording Secretary

Treasurer Nominee and Proposed Revision to TICGS By-Law Article 7 Sec 04--Restrictions

Under the current Bylaws, all officers of the club are to be members of the Board, and Board membership is restricted to those who have been club members for at least one year.

A proposal is being made (for membership approval) that the Bylaws be revised to include a “waiver clause”, so that when a special circumstance arises, the one year club membership requirement for Board membership may be waived through Board approval. The revision being proposed would read very much like this: Under current Bylaws, an exception may be made that someone be elected when a need presents itself, so a position doesn't remain unfilled, that person can be elected into that position as long as no one else equally or more qualified with a one year club membership comes forward. **This proposal was made and Seconded by the Board for submission to TICGS membership for approval at the January 29th Annual Meeting. Note: Change in the Bylaws requires the affirmative vote of two-thirds of TICGS members present at the Annual Meeting.**

CORRECTION: The wording of the proposed revision to be put up for vote is to read as follows:

Membership in the Club for at least one year is a pre-requisite for election to any Board position. This requirement may be waived, however, on a finding by the Board that there is no qualified candidate for an Officer position who has been a member for a year or more, and there is a candidate who is qualified in all ways except for meeting the one-year membership requirement.

Purpose behind Revision Proposal: The current TICGS Treasurer Tota Sellars has expressed her desire not to run for the position in the coming year, and at the time this proposal was made there was not any one currently on the Board who wished to run for the opening position.

Argument for Revision of this Bylaw: There has been precedence for electing to the Board someone who has recently joined TICGS, Henry Bjornsson's son being the prime example given. The hope given in the argument is that those who want to participate can now do so without the limitation of having to be a member for one full year before becoming eligible for election to the Board.

Nominee for Treasurer: Chuck Mulberg, a Certified Public Accountant for Mulberg and Associates in Bothell (and whose wife is Icelandic), has become a member of TICGS, along with his entire family into TICGS. In his application, he stated that he would be interested in participating on any committee of

TICGS. The Board has long been discussing the need for better financial control and accounting, with this in mind Henry called and made Mr. Mulberg the offer of becoming Treasurer.

Use of the term of "Trustee":

It was pointed out that the term "Trustee" doesn't currently exist in the 2009 Bylaws. Furthermore, according to previous versions of the TICGS Bylaws: besides sitting in on monthly Board Meetings, the role of a Trustee was to be assigned a TICGS event, oversee the putting together of the event, act as the direct line of communication between the committee and the Board, and be present at the event. This previous practice assigning of a Trustee to each TICGS event has not been followed as of late, and the Board has expressed its concern that the same people have been made to do all the planning and putting on of all TICGS event. Unanimously expressed by those on the Board was the opinion that the event workload needs to be better distributed. It was therefore agreed that the term Trustee be reinstated into the current Bylaws, as well as reinstatement of the duties previously detailed to them, including the aforementioned duties.

New Business:

Insurance is to be a one-time payment to cover just one event this coming year, Thorrablot, as opposed to making monthly payments to cover TICGS activities all year.

Regarding the TICGS Website:

Currently on the TICGS website it is stated that those who are TICGS members get a 20% discount off TICGS events, with the exception of Thorrablot. Decision is yet to be made regarding as to whether to honor this statement or remove it from the site.

Request was made that the website be updated to include statements that January is Member Renewal Month, as well as displaying the Annual Meeting Announcement, Thorrablot News, etc... Further requests were made that the Monthly Board Meeting Minutes be kept up to date on the site, as well as the making available of *all* the Board Members contact information to Tad Davis, the TICGS webmaster, for the express purpose that all of their addresses be included within the iceboard@icelandseattle.com address, as well as making all the names of those currently receiving email from that address available to the Board for updating.

Miscellaneous:

Membership applications, along with an enclosed self-addressed and stamped envelope, were sent out to all *active* TICGS members totaling 197. A list of the 151 *inactive* members has been compiled. Discussion was made on whether or not to include a pre-stamped envelope with the membership applications that are yet to be sent out to *inactive* members. It has been the practice of recent years to include a pre-stamped envelope with all applications that were sent out, whether to active or inactive members. The concern amongst the members of the Board was that is this practice bringing back significant, if any, returns, in other words is it worth the extra cost of pre-paid postage. Decision was made by the Board that included with those applications sent out to *inactive* members be a self-

addressed envelope **without** the stamp. Inactive members will have to pay for their own postage if they wish to renew their membership.

Proposal was made that in order to draw interest into TICGS from the reportedly 6000+ Icelanders currently living in Washington (2006 census), we should consider advertising TICGS events such as Thorrablot through radio and television.

Request was made by Brynjar Halldorsson, who has the charge of getting the liquor license for the upcoming Thorrablot, of the need to obtain the liquor license number from the last Thorrablot.

Minutes dutifully recorded and presented by Markus Rook, Board Member Trustee