

THE ICELANDIC CLUB OF GREATER SEATTLE

Board Meeting Friday, November 12, 2010

Present: Anna Hauksdottir, Tota Sellars, Henry Bjornsson, Markus Rook, Brynjar Halldorsson (Club Member), Jon Marvin Jonsson (Club Member)

Treasurer's Report: October Income \$425.00 (\$60 from calendars, \$25 from Leif Eiriksson Beer, \$200 from postage, \$20 from miscellaneous, \$100 from Ellen Johnson Ad);

October Expense \$1308.00 (Newsletter Expense \$1020.00, Gallagher Brewery \$70.00, Storage \$98.00, Leif Eiriksson Announcement Postage \$95.00);

Club Account as of October 31, 2010: \$6375.00; Icelandic Room \$5702.00

Jola Ball: Seattle Sister City is indeed paying for the event (December 11th) and will be getting a share of the income from the event with The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle.

Old Business:

Receipts (paid) and Voucher (plaque) for Thorrablot 2010 were given to Treasurer to be included in File.

A total of 5 newsletters were returned to the Club stamped "Return to Sender" for various reasons, postage charged totaled \$12.78.

Discussion was made concerning the drawing up of official contracts to be read and signed by those companies wishing to have their advertisements included in TICGS newsletters. These forms will be in hands of the Treasurer for request. Discussion continued concerning the payment scale for the various sizes (from business card size to half a page or more) of said advertisements. The point was raised that currently the advertisements are not paying for the expense of putting together the newsletter. **ADDITION:** Currently all advertisements have been paid for, **with the exception** of three hotels in Reykjavik.

Discussion was made concerning the establishment of a budget for Thorrablot, using the expenditures of the previous years' Thorrablots as a guideline for the planning of future Thorrablots. The point was raised that the total expenditures of the current year's Thorrablot should be made available much sooner, presumably before the year's end so that it may be used in the planning of the next year's Thorrablot.

Discussion was also made that the emails of Board Members be made available to the Thorrablot Committee, so that they may be regularly updated on the current progress of the planning for the upcoming Thorrablot, including the dates and times of Committee meetings.

Annual Meeting:

Motion was made, and seconded by the Board, to make the Saturday, January 15 the date of the 2011 Annual Meeting, with the location to be decided at the next meeting.

New Business:

Band for Thorrablot: 3 musicians from Iceland. Point was raised that before the band stated their interest in performing for the 2011 Thorrablot, they had already planned to fly from Iceland to Los Angeles for a previously scheduled performance, therefore only the cost of transportation from Los Angeles to Seattle roundtrip is currently being considered the sole responsibility of the Club. **CORRECTION:** The Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle **will be responsible** for half the roundtrip airfare to and from Iceland. The Club in Los Angeles will be responsible for the Seattle to Los Angeles trip.

An email was received by TICGS from Brad Stevens of Icelandair concerning the launching of their new Thorrablot website, which they hope will simplify the process of ordering through Icelandair online gift certificates and air transportation by participating associations, namely Icelandic Chefs and Artists wishing to contribute their services to the upcoming year's Thorrablot. The option available from the website (<http://www.icelandair.us/thorrablot/>) will be of purchasing up to 2 gift certificates at \$150USD each, with each valid for one person traveling to Iceland from any North American Gateway. IcelandAir will also sponsor up to 4 chefs and an Artist to attend the Thorrablot event: cost of each ticket up to \$275USD, with allowance for one complimentary change once reservations have been made.

Christmas Aid for Icelanders—email from INL: “Since the financial meltdown in Iceland, INL of NA has been collecting money at Christmas each year to support families in Iceland who were affected. This year again, the INL of N.A. office in Gimli will forward any donations you would like to make to Iceland. In order to reach them in time to distribute help before Christmas, please send your contribution to reach us by Monday, December 6th. We have already received our first cheque from Gimli Icelandic Canadian Society for \$200...We will again be supporting “Mothers’ Support Committee” which is located in Reykjavik...The aid is no longer only to single mothers and their children, the men have now been added, both single and those with custody of children, and disabled people, older people and foreigners of several nationalities...”

In response to this request, discussion was made about the amount that TICGS should offer to this cause, and the amount of \$150 was motioned and seconded by the Board.

Implementing Our New Expense Accounting Policy:

Discussion was made concerning making both better account of and accountability for transactions made with TICGS funds. If events or expenditures are deemed by the Board to be either not cost effective or self-sustaining, then motions can be made to alter such events or expenditures so they may become self-sustaining, or have their share in the Budget either changed or terminated altogether. The New Expense Accounting Policy for TICGS was requested by members of the Board, written by Karen Black, and sent by from Henry Bjornsson to all TICGS members in an email titled "Club Finances and Budgeting".

Other Business:

A request was made that Birna Sigurbjornsdottir, a recently joined member, become a board member, with motion being made by Board to summit her for approval at the annual meeting.

Honorarium of \$200 for Kristinn Gudjonsson, a lecturer from Iceland who came to the UW for a lecture concerning Iceland's current affairs, was motioned and seconded by the Board.

Discussion was made of the Fjallkona article that's currently in the September 2010 issue of the New Geysir. The Board's decision was that the article will be redone and included in the upcoming issue.

It was commented by members of the Board that not only should more club members attend board meetings, but also that an "open forum period" be made available so that subjects not on the planned agenda, yet of concern to club members, be brought forward for discussion.

A proposal was made concerning the setting up of a scholarship fund for the Snorri Program, with special criteria for applicants to be discussed at next meeting.

A proposal was made concerning the purchasing of a Viking Ship made by a local Icelander for display in the Icelandic Room at the Nordic Heritage Museum. Point was raised that there would be need for a plaque to be displayed stating both the Icelander's and TICGS's ties to it. No decision has been made as of yet.

One of the Icelandic dresses is currently still in the possession of a past Thorrablot princess. TICGS is in need of its swift return. A proposal was made that someone needs to be elected by the Club for the position of "caretaker of princess dresses", that they would be responsible of the loaning out and return of said dresses. The proposal was made that such position be offered up for acceptance in the Club By-laws at the next meeting, and then presented to and put up for a vote by Club Membership at the Annual Meeting.

Minutes dutifully noted and prepared by Markus Rook, Board Trustee.