



Meeting Minutes

Engineers Without Borders – Chicagoland Professional Chapter

Date: January 27, 2009

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Location: University of Illinois at Chicago, Engineering Research Facility

- I. Welcome & Announcements – Jennifer Anderson (president@ewb-chicago.org)
 - a. Jennifer Anderson read the EWB mission statement
 - b. Volunteers needed – the following is a listing of current needs
 - i. Student Chapters
 1. IIT (contact Algirdas Bielskus & Hdara Shah)
 - a. Professional to advise on water testing
 - b. Soil testing auger
 - c. Assistance with quantitative survey
 2. Valpraiso (contact Alex Williams)
 - a. Professionals to discuss travel logistics
 - b. Mentor to give technical advice
 3. Univ. of Illinois – Urbana Champaign
 - a. PE Mentor for Cameroon Project (water related)
 - b. PE Mentor Guatemala Project (water-related)
 4. Northern Illinois University (contact Rob Geiger)
 - a. Mentor to begin liason work
 5. Rose-Hulman (contact Rob Geiger (universityliason@ewb-chicago.org))
 - a. Mentor, begin liaison work
 - ii. Honduras Bridge Project (contact Scott Eschleman (EshlemanScott@stanleygroup.com))
 1. Hydraulics/hydrologic engineer(s) to discuss bridge positioning
 2. Fluent Spanish speaker
 3. Structural engineer(s)
 4. A second safety person to go on trip
 5. Contractors to go on trip
 6. EWB form writer
 7. Fundraisers & people with Rotary International connections
 8. Organized person to gather group data, collect forms and organize trip details

- iii. Committees
 - 1. Fundraising (contact Eamon Geary (fundraising@ewb-chicago.org))
 - a. Reserarching & writing grant proposals
 - b. Interfacing with project teams in regard to funding needs
 - c. Planning & executing spring fundraiser (May 1st)
 - 2. Communications (contact Nick Galle(communications@ewb-chicago.org))
 - a. Person interested in helping communication in chapter and among other chapters
 - c. General Announcements
 - i. HNGR symposion Wheaton College, Feb. 27-28 “Enabling Local Vision, Effecting Global Change”
<http://www.wheaton.edu/hngr/symposium/symposium2009.html>
 - ii. World Relief Opportunity – looking for engineers to help refugee engineers obtain US licensure. Contact Gustave Worner, 603.462.7566x24
 - iii. WISE at UIC – Shadow Day, may 11-15 (contact Robin Semer (conference@ewb-chicago.org))
- II. International Conference Update – Robin Semer
 - a. Conference will be held in Milwaukee March 26 – 29, 2009, visit ewb website for more information - <http://www.ewb-usa.org/ConferenceMain.php>
 - b. EWB-CPC will present the Cuetzalla project at the conference
 - c. Hotel discounts through March 1st - \$89 for single through \$119 for quad
 - d. Conference needs corporate sponsors (\$1,000 and up). There will be a career fair for company sponsors
 - e. Visit the rideshare website to coordinate carpooling to conference - www.iCarpool.com
- III. Student Chapter Presentation – Vaparaiso University (contact Alex Williams)
 - a. Students presented details of work they’ve done in Nakor, Kenya to develop clean, reliable water sources, water storage and garden plots to the region.
 - b. Emphasized the importance of developing strong relationships with locals and understanding their culture
 - c. Chapter is evaluating new project opportunities in Mtwara, Tanzania and Moshi Tanzania
 - d. Chapter is having a basketball game fund raiser on February 21st at 7:00 pm
- IV. Committee Updates
 - a. Membership (contact Nancy Holmes (membership@ewb-chicago.org))
 - i. Remember to sign in and renew membership at ewb-usa.org
 - b. Projects (contact Maureen Kolka (projects@ewb-chicago.org))
 - i. Mali project
 - 1. Maureen will be travelling to Mali with EWB Rocky Mountain Professionals Chapter in a couple weeks to perform field survey work and health assessment
 - ii. Ghana project

1. Assessment trip to Ghana has been put on hold due to recent change in government
- iii. Honduras Bridge Project (contact Scott Eshleman (EshlemanScott@stanleygroup.com))
 1. Assessment group leaving this Thursday and returning Monday evening
 2. Pedestrian bridge has been approved by EWB
 3. Team is looking for a hydraulic/hydrologic engineer to consider impacts of river migration
 4. Team needs volunteers to work on design which needs to be completed in February
 5. Team participated in EWB-USA webinar to walk through national paperwork and approvals process
- iv. Honduras Landfill Project (contact Marco Gonzales)
 1. Marco discussed future potential project in a small community in Honduras
 2. Community has a huge problem with garbage
 3. Looking for engineering design of waste composting cells
 4. It's anticipated that the chapter will vote on the project at next month's meeting
- c. Treasure's Report - Aaron Datesman (treasurer@ewb-chicago.org)
 - i. Aaron presented current treasurer's report
- d. Universities Report – Rob Geiger (universityliason@ewb-chicago.org)
 - i. Rob summarizes current activities at various student chapters
- e. Social Committee – Sue Smith (social@ewb-chicago.org)
 - i. February social event will include a bowling party in Lombard, details to follow
 - ii. Dragon boat racing event will be held in April or May, details to follow
 - iii. HOW Project – Amit Pathak (apathak@v3co.com)
 1. Looking for volunteers to work on local volunteer projects
 2. Work will be performed in late February or early March
- f. Research & Training – Joe Fitzpatrick (research@ewb-chicago.org)
 - i. Joe will be going on leave for 4 ½ months so he must step down as chair of this committee
 - ii. Looking for new chair of committee – contact Joe or Jennifer Anderson
- V. Chapter Discussion – Paul Anderson
 - a. Attendees divided into small groups to discuss what it means to be an EWB-USA chapter by considering elements of the EWB-USA mission statement
- VI. Closing and Pizza