Rocky Mountain Harvard University Club
Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting, 8 April 2015

Present: Tracey Smith Srinidhi Reddy
         JK Costella Fred Ris
         Phil Weintraub John Griffin
         Eric Eversley

Excused: Christina Gomez

(Numbering below references the meeting agenda)

Tracey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

1.) Preliminaries
   a. Regrets: Christina
   b. Guests: Ed Fields
   c. Agenda Adopted
   d. Personal Matters

2.) Consent Agenda
   a. March meeting minutes adopted

3.) Financial Report for October
   a. See Christina’s email
      • Ticket sales still coming in for Andrew Berry
      • Still waiting on a few expense receipts for ALC

4.) Past Events
   a. HAA / ALC Conference
      • See Tracey, Fred, JK reports that were emailed
   b. Young Alum Event at Punch Bowl Social
      • Did not have a host
      • Restaurant host thought we had about 10 attendees
      • Early spring may not be a good time to have the event as last year we had a similar event around the same time in the Cherry Creek area and had one attendee
   c. Harvard –Yale Basketball Watch Party
      • Over 50 people, half Harvard, half Yale
   d. Harvard-UNC Basketball Watch Party
      • About 15 people, turnout was likely impacted by time (5:20 pm) and general consensus that the game was likely to an easy win for UNC
      • UNC connected with us to have a joint event in the future but the type of event is unclear
   e. Speaker Series, Ron Felaide
      • Almost 25 people, mostly Harvard and Yale alums
      • Very interesting talk about sustainability and architecture; discussion afterwards went really well
      • There was an incident with an unknown attendee and parking
      • May want to have a sign-up sheet at next event to know who is attending
6:30pm was a good time to start, most people showed up on time
Cost was minimal given restrictions by venue; likely to be similar next time
Couple of people spoke with JK about wanting to speak at a similar event in the future
f. Serving Lunch to the Homeless
   o See Christina’s email
   o Successful event with over 15 volunteers

5.) Upcoming Events
   a. New Admit Reception (April 11th)
      • So far, we have 4 students with parents signed up
   b. HAA Faculty Speakers Bureau Program (April 17th)
      • 57 people have bought tickets so far (another 3 people are in the process)
      • Will send out another email blast
      • Need to find accommodations for Friday and Saturday nights for Berry
      • Tracey will contact Speakers Bureau to see if they can cover Saturday night since we were originally told one night; also she will find out if Berry is available Saturday for another event
      • Potential Saturday idea (Phil, Eric, John, Srinidhi can be available)
         o Sit-down meal (breakfast, brunch or lunch)
         o Have Steering Committee attend
         o Can contact high level donors to see if they want to attend
   c. Soup Kitchen (May 28th)
      • JK will be taking over this series from Christina
      • Will look into establishing a cadence / continue increasing the frequency
      • We definitely have enough volunteers to make this a monthly event if the church can handle it
   d. Speaker Series, Peter Hanson (June 9th)
      • JK will get the blurb put up on the website
      • The talk will be about Congress (Hanson has published a book on this topic)
      • We can’t sell books at the event
   e. GNN (June 22nd)
      • Looking for hosts in Colorado Springs, Fort Collins and Boulder; Tracey has an idea for Colorado Springs and Boulder
      • May change Denver venue from Chinook Tavern to Viewhouse across I-25 (great patio and view)

6.) Events in Gestation
   a. Member / Volunteer Appreciation Event
      • Potentially have a joint event this summer / fall to cover the last two fiscal years

7.) Status Update
   a. Schools Committee
      • Admit rate was over 20% for early admits (14 admits)
      • Admit rate for regulars was less than 2% (6 admits)
      • 2 of the 6 regular admits were the top 2 students ranked during the ranking meeting
   b. Membership Committee
   c. Communications / Webmaster
      • Looking for someone to spearhead this area
   d. Local Speaker Series
      • JK currently leading; see notes above
e. Young Alums
   • Next June (potentially go to a baseball game; threshold for group sales is 10 and they provide tickets with stored value)

f. Other

8.) Pending Issues
a. Bylaws Revision
b. Keeping Club Archives
c. Membership Survey
d. Book Prize
   • Have had trouble finding volunteers (of the 9 schools, only had people volunteer for 4 schools)
   • A new school has qualified and is really excited
   • Had some trouble contacting Fairplay (principal might have thought it was a solicitation call)
   • One idea is to send snail mail since email may end up in spam (include $50 donation and talk about Book Prize)
   • Next year, may contact superintendent rather than principal

e. Insurance
f. Stationery

9.) Other Business
a. Harvard Glee Club
   • Spring 2016 (spring break) – need to know exact dates and number of people
   • May be able to get list of glee club members and Radcliffe Choral members living in Colorado
   • Our directory may include Glee Club or Choral affiliation – these people may be most interested in hosting students
   • Last time, they had around 60 people
   • Tracey to find out more details
b. Minds Matter email request
   • We turned down a request for funding for a similar program last summer
   • Fred will follow-up with student and admissions office
   • If number of students are limited and the program carries weight with admissions, then we can discuss covering a portion of the cost

10.) Action Item Review
11.) Adjournment

Next meetings: Wednesday, May 13th (Tracey)
               Wednesday, June 10th (Fred)

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM