

Rocky Mountain Harvard University Club
Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting, 6 November 2013

Present : Tracey Smith Christina Gomez
 Srinidhi Reddy Eric Eversley
 Vincent Oletu Junko Kim
 Fred Ris Phil Weintraub
 John Griffin

Excused: Steve Kregstein

(Numbering below references the meeting agenda)

Tracey called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM

- 1.) Preliminaries
 - a.) Regrets
 - b.) Guests: Jim Kornish, Dunia Dickey
 - c.) Agenda adopted
- 2.) Minutes adopted
- 3.) Financial Report
 - Largest expenses last month were Member Appreciation and initial Christmas Party expenses
 - Still working on the reimbursements for the membership extensions
- 4.) Past Events
 - A.) Welcome to your City
 - At Ace Restaurant on Thursday, October 3 from 5-7
 - Had 44 RSVPs
 - About 30-35 people showed up, including many people who have been in Colorado for some time but have never attended an event
 - Multiple requests for similar events in the future
 - Most people thought the time was too early – may push back to 6-8 in the future
 - B.) Member Appreciation
 - 50% no show rate even with the RSVPs
 - Surprising since this wasn't a general event but specifically for people who contributed to the club financially or time wise during the last year
 - Followed up with a few people – usually last minutes things, Friday evening may not have been ideal, the time may have also been an issue due to traffic
 - Even with the high no-show rate, all the food was consumed
 - C.) Aaron Harber Taping
 - Not actively involved beyond publicizing on our website and in the newsletter

- More than 60 people have clicked on the link

D.) The Game

- Less than 10 people clicked through to the page on the website
- Choppers has confirmed the space
- Doors will open at 9:30am; game starts at 10am
- Last year, only 40 out of the 120 attendees were from Harvard
- Post cards have gone out
- Phil has purchased swag to lottery off / hand out during the game

E.) Harvard-CU basketball game

- Have 25 tickets behind the Harvard bench
- Post cards about The Game include information about this game
- Blurb is up on the website and members can buy tickets (SC has claimed 9-10)
- Tickets will be handed out at Beau-Jo's during the pre-game event
- Harvard coach may make an appearance at the event
- Additional promotions: give out tickets at The Game event, email alumni in other states, specifically email people who attended last few sports-related events
- A few people, including Jim, already bought tickets by the time we started selling them – might want to start selling earlier next time
- May want to arrange an event automatically if there's a Harvard game in the area rather than this being an unusual event

F.) Christmas Party

- Confirmed for Sunday, Dec 15th
- Location: Fred's apartment building; need to lock down pool room as well
- Possible times: 3-6pm, 4-7pm (last year was 1-5pm); earlier may be better => 3-6pm (event can go longer)
- Do not have access to the room until noon (may be earlier if there's no event the previous day)
- Caterer has not been confirmed for the event
- Have decided to pay the clean-up fee this year (\$75) after last year's trouble
- Last year's attendance: ~60
- Last year's pricing: \$30 more than a week in advance; \$35 week before; \$40 at door; non-member price was an additional \$10
- Didn't sell much beer last year; limit to wine / non-alcoholic beverages this year
- Upper limit: 100 attendees
- Pricing this year: \$30 more than a week in advance; \$40 week before; \$45 at door; ages 10-18 \$15, \$20, \$20; under 10 is free
- Fred will bring the wine and non-alcoholic beverages as well as the left-over utensils, plates, etc. from last year
- Caterer will pick up utensils afterwards; will need to separate those items and leave a note for the clean-up crew (they essentially throw everything away)
- \$20 per hour to monitor door

G.) Soup Kitchen

- Sunday before Christmas (Dec 20)
- Christina will send emails to people who have volunteered before
- Event is up on the website
- In case not many people can make it, the coordinator can arrange some people

H.) GNN (Monday, January 13, 2014)

- Denver: Tracey, Chinook Tavern
- Boulder: TBD, Steven Chang?, Natasha Whitney, Grace
- Colorado Springs: TBD, the Raines

5.) Events in Gestation

A) Anna Jones' Women's Pot Luck (Title IX)

- Anna Jones wants to a potluck for a group of women
- possibly turn it into a monthly event – somewhat like a book club
- she wants to host and discuss title 9 during event
- Junko is in touch with Anna
- Event tentatively scheduled for January

B) Possible Romanoff / Coffman Debate with Peter Hanson moderating

- Candidates for District 6 House Seat
- Asked Peter Hansen to moderate rather than Aaron Harber who would charge more and the event may become more political; Peter is a professor there so we may be able to get space that way as well
- Junko will follow-up

C) Additional Service Opportunities

1.) Dumb Friends League

- Tracey is in touch with them
- They want us to commit to volunteer a certain number of times
- Do not recommend volunteers under 12 years of age (sponsors community service projects for kids working off community service hours)
- Would be on the weekend

2.) Aurora Community Connection

- Need help primarily in tutoring
- Run by Harvard alum
- After school volunteer opportunities
- Possibly early college awareness programming

6.) Status Updates

A) Schools Committee

- Early action interviews are in the process of being scheduled
- Will get it done over the next 3 weeks

B) Membership Committee

- Fred emailed the Committee earlier today
- Have garnered 31 new memberships and 81 renewals, though had 72 memberships expire, including 2 Patron and 2 Sponsor level memberships

- We can activate Alumni Magnet that send out reminder emails to people who membership expirations are coming up
 - Reminders are sent out 60 days, 30 days and 1 day prior to expiration, though we cannot see the content and have no control over it
 - Fred has set up a test account to expire January 7 so we should be able to see the 60 day reminder
 - As for the Membership Extension Discounts, we are the only Club that has complained about it
 - Not sure if it will be solved soon
 - In the future, if we catch it soon enough (within 72 hours) we can issue a partial refund through CyberSource and send an email afterwards (CyberSource connects Alumni Magnet and First Bank)
 - For now, the people who extended several months ago, Fred and Christina will send out checks to them by the end of the month
- C) Communications / Webmaster
- Have been uploading minutes from the Committee meetings (still missing a few months)
 - Please send pictures to upload to the website
 - Need new bio – maybe replace bios with interesting facts about the area or feature upcoming speakers
- D) Speaker Series
- No speakers until 2014
- E) Young Alums
- Next event likely to be early 2014 since we have the Christmas Party and the GNN in the next two months
- F) Other
- CLIMB
 - Program matches college students to internships in the area (Harvard students have participated in the past)
 - Climb has a new representative who is a Climb alum who met Tracey at Harvard-Yale two years ago
 - We used to participate, but the general lack of transparency is why we stopped participating
 - The written agreement we had with them two years ago was breached twice
 - Program is good, but we weren't comfortable working with them financially
 - Table it for now; not prepared to commit financially this year
 - Sponsorship Story – Northern Nevada
 - Northern Nevada split from Southern Nevada and created their own club
 - Joined other Ivies since they only have about 300 members and no money
 - Alumni Magnet has financial / commercial sponsorship capabilities
 - NN Club is essentially selling space on their website

- We don't really need to do this; we have alums that donate though it's not an official sponsorship

7.) Pending issues / Any other business

- December dinner: Vincent
- Next meetings
 - Tuesday, December 03
 - Wednesday, January 8

Meeting adjourned at 9:03pm