

Rocky Mountain Harvard University Club
Steering Committee Minutes, 5 December 2012

In attendance:

- Eric Eversley
- Christina Gomez
- John Griffin
- Junko Kim
- Fred Ris
- Tracey Smith
- Phil Weintraub

Excused:

- Ann Bender
- Steve Kregstein

The meeting was called to order at 6:45.

Consent Agenda: The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Financial Report: Most of November's (and early December's) activity was around reservations for the Holiday Party. We are collecting a few memberships (new or renewal) around each event. Overall, projecting another surplus for this year.

Alumni Leadership Conference Financing: There was discussion around the value of ALC attendance to both individual and Club, and the recent history of our financing was reviewed. Points included the need (and attendant awkwardness) in some cases of an attendee not being able to go without support, the fact that financial support represents an investment that the Club expects a return on in the form of continuing service from the recipient, and the comparative value of simply attending versus providing a report back to the Club.

It was moved and seconded that for the 2013 ALC the Club will reimburse any member of the Steering Committee who attends up to \$250 for attending or up to \$500 for attending and providing a written report of what was learned within two weeks of return, in neither case the amount exceeding actual travel expenses to attend. Passed 4-0 with three abstentions (Kim, Ris, Smith).

Membership Criteria: Tracking our membership with Alumni Magnet has exposed that not all of our members appear in the HAA's database. The HAA leaves it to each club's discretion how (and whether) to offer membership to surviving spouses, parents of students, and former Harvard faculty, and past decisions of the Steering Committee have endorsed offering membership to all of these categories. These people do not have HAA sign-on credentials and thus enter the RMHUC website via a non-alumni interface.

In the process of connecting our members with HAA records, it emerged that two members who had been members pre-AM were in fact former faculty, and we adjusted our records accordingly. A third new member does not appear in the HAA's records and does not fall into any of the above existing categories but does have Harvard connections which under other circumstances would qualify as an "Associate" (HAA's terminology for non-degreed people in their database). Although this was only recently brought to light, we now know how to detect such situations and can deal with them more expeditiously in the future. The Steering Committee agreed that no set of policies could be expected to cover all plausible situations and so it would be necessary to examine individual cases from time to time. (The expectation is that this might average one a year.)

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously that the new member in question would remain a member in good standing and welcomed in the life of the Club.

Rocky Mountain Harvard University Club
Steering Committee Minutes, 5 December 2012

The Steering Committee referred to the Membership Committee for recommendation(s) the question of whether any useful guidelines could be articulated.

Expenses for the Boulder Ghost Tour Event: The November 14 event was sufficiently successful that we ended up with a surplus. As the (non-Harvard) host of the event had personally paid for refreshments, we so far have had no expenses. There was discussion about the appropriateness of a donation to Historic Boulder; the consensus was that making such a *post hoc* decision would set a precedent with which we would not be comfortable.

It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously that we will make an effort to reimburse the host for the cost of refreshments. Junko will pursue the matter with Marco DeGaetano (our organizer) to find out what the actual expenses were.

Status Updates: Reports were received for Membership (Tracey), Schools (John), Communications (Fred), and Speakers Series (Junko).

Phil had provided an excellent written report of The Game watch party; this was followed up with discussion. Although Harvard prevailed on the field, the RMHUC was substantially outnumbered by the CYA in attendance at Chopper's. Things went well and continue to improve with the venue. The SC thanked Phil for a job well done.

Future Events: Fred reported in Ann's absence that the Holiday Party is on track and, thanks to her work, looks to be a successful and enjoyable event. There are no issues

Global Networking Night is ready to go in Colorado Springs (thanks again to Chris Raines), and Tracey is close to concluding an arrangement with Chinook in Greenwood Village. We are still trying to find a Boulder coordinator.

Christina reported that the January 31 service event is on track; she will start contacting past volunteers and others who have expressed interest after the first of the year.

The February 9 appreciation event will proceed after the dust from the Holiday Party clears.

Events in Gestation: Charlie Miller's proposal for a viewing and talkback session of either the final dress rehearsal or one of the previews of *Ed, Downloaded* presents a unique opportunity. However, a coordinator will be required. Nobody in the room was available to do this. Fred will contact John Boak to see whether the CYA (with whom we would be doing this event) is willing to step up. Otherwise, this may die on the vine.

Anna Cawrse (MLA '12) would like to do an event around the Clyfford Still Museum and has had a preliminary conversation with Fred about this. No timeframe projected.

Creating Website Pages: Fred took the group through a brief demonstration of the Alumni Magnet webpage creation tool. SC members have been given access to this tool.

Pending Issues: Bylaws revision, membership survey, book prize, self-promotion member workshops, and Club record management remain pending; membership criteria has been added to the list.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30

Minutes submitted by Fred Ris