

Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle Board Meeting; March 7, 2015, 10:30AM

Attendees: Gísli Ólafsson (President); Jan Sigurdsson (Membership Secretary); David Johnson (Treasurer); Henry Bjornsson (Trustee); Tota Sellars (Trustee); Petur Gudmundsson (Trustee); Linda Russo (Volunteer)

- Gísli opened the meeting at 10:45 by sharing a meeting agenda.
- The draft minutes of our February 7 meeting were approved as read.
- Jan indicates 163 memberships have been paid to date. The group talked about having a membership drive in October/November next year as well, using Emily's letter as a model.

David provided an interim Treasurer's report showing an account balance of approximately \$19,000 and about \$5400 in our scholarship fund. David indicated that he will have a more detailed report next month as he will be gaining more information about our investment account. David also gave a preliminary report on our Thorrablot revenue; although all costs and income have not as yet cleared, it appears we made a healthy profit. A summary of our costs and revenue will be available at our next meeting.

David also announced that former Icelandic President Vigdís Finbogadóttir will be the keynote speaker at the INL annual meeting in Minnesota in May.

Old Business:

There was a lively discussion of the success of the previous week's **Thorrablot**. Because there were so many good suggestions and observations that were provided and also duly noted by this month's secretary (Jan), we will have a separate meeting to discuss only Thorrablot ideas and suggestions for next year. Jon Palmason was not able to attend this meeting but sent an email to everyone with his impressions of Thorrablot and it is critical that all of his information and notes of the Board be assimilated into one document for planning purposes. Gísli thanked everyone, especially Jon, for their role in our success.

New Business:

Petur Gudmundsson is working on our **April beer -tasting event**, which may be held at the brewery in Tukwila. More to come.

Gísli is taking the lead on our **May 17** participation. Henry brought the new Icelandic flag for us to see. It was donated by Valgeir at Hofsós. The board agreed to send a \$250 check to the immigration center as a donation. Gísli also indicated we need a pole for our big flag. We will advertise the event with an email blast and also on Facebook.

It is time to encourage **scholarship** applications as well. We need to advertise their availability. Perhaps, email or FB as well? A few applications have been received and someone needs to take the lead in promoting and awarding them.

Henry talked a little about the award-winning Icelandic show, Vesturfarar. It was very popular in Iceland when it was shown and is now available on DVD in Icelandic with English subtitles. The show tells the stories of Icelandic immigrants to Canada and the US in the late 1800s. Linda asked about selling things for the Icelandic club and David who had experience with this idea said that there's too small a profit for that kind of undertaking. However, several copies of Vesturfarar were purchased by David for those who had made arrangements with him to buy from him at cost. More will probably be ordered and perhaps made available at the picnic in August.

Between July 2 and 9 this summer, Snorri West young people will be visiting Seattle and David asked that we add this to our schedule of events so that we could help host them. There were 21 applicants this round and only 4 people from Iceland will be chosen.

Next month's meeting: April 11 at 10:30AM. Gísli will contact the NHM to get these meetings on their calendar.

Gísli called the meeting closed at 12:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sigurdson