

## Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle Board Meeting, September 10, 2016

Attendees: Gisli Olafsson (President), Jon Palmason (Vice President), David Johnson (Treasurer), Jan Sigurdson (Membership Secretary), Jens Eysteinnsson (Trustee), Kathi Olason (Trustee), Amanda Allen (Trustee), Pétur Guðmundsson (Trustee), Henry Bjornsson (Trustee), and Dolla Davis (Trustee).

Meeting called to order by President Gisli Olafsson at 10:45AM at the Nordic Heritage Museum.

**Prior Meeting Minutes:** Minutes of the June meeting as recorded by David Johnson were approved as read. The Board regrettably accepted Margo Bjornsson's resignation as Recording Secretary. Jan Sigurdson was voted unanimously to serve in the dual role of Recording and Membership Secretary until the next election.

**Membership Report:** Jan indicates we now have 201 paid members. Our membership drive will begin in October with the recently approved dues increases of \$10 in each category. Amanda will update the membership form on our website to reflect these changes for 2017.

**Treasurer's Report:** David presented a current financial snapshot, including our dedicated funds of nearly \$68,000 which will go toward the new NHM. He noted that we will be saving approximately \$1100 next year by moving our storage to the Swedish Club and that we had paid for six \$500 scholarships this year (up from four last year). We now have only \$2,000 left in the scholarship account, which means we need to look at fundraising specifically for scholarships next year. While our liquid cash is stable in large part due to membership dues, we have had a number of free events that have eaten into our budget. There was a short discussion about Thorrablot goals and costs.

### **Old Business**

All of those who helped move items from paid storage into the Swedish Club storage provided to us were roundly thanked!

There was a quick review of the summer picnic that was held in Lynnwood again. Attendance was about the same as last year (about 50 people?). Our best attendance year was when an Icelandic family reunion was held at the same time as the annual picnic. If we intend to have our next picnic at Lynndale Park, we need to make reservations very soon.

Henry reported on Viking Days, which completely sold out both days. We will receive a report later on how much income was generated to support NHM. As previously, Gusti's on-site ponnukokur (with Jens's help!!!) was a big draw.

## **Upcoming Events**

Artist Steinunn reception: NHM, in partnership with Seattle Taste of Iceland 2016, will be hosting a new exhibition installation and art reception in support of the Weather Diaries exhibit at NHM. Icelandic artist Steinunn Sigurðardóttir will debut her installation, *The Space in Between* at the reception on Thursday, October 13, at 6 pm. Reservations are available on the NHM website.

Leifur Eriksson Day/Concert Jon reported that Guörun Ingimarsdóttir has a conflict for performing in October. Jon will explore all options with Elizabeth at the PLU Scandinavian Cultural Center.

Newsletter Amanda has plans for a fall edition of our *Geysir*. We had a brief discussion about opening up general membership email capabilities to Pétur and Jan. Amanda will provide that to each of them to create additional communication opportunities.

Dates for Jolaball and Thorrablot Jan will call Hrefna Miller to ask about the Jolaball date/site/and general planning. Jon Palmason indicated that our Thorrablot will be held on February 25, 2017, at the Swedish Club again. Jon indicated a willingness to serve as MC with help from Jens and Pétur.

Trustees needed We will need to add two more trustees to the Board in January. Two members have recently moved:

## **Other Business**

1. Taste of Iceland/Reykjavik Calling is between October 13 and 16.
2. Icelandic Princess this year is Taryn Keller with Ashley Ann Block as Princess in waiting (Tota, Hrefna, and Emily guide them).
3. Scholarship committee chair is Linda Russo and Emily Kristjanson advises.
4. Jollaball committee is Hrefna Milner, Judy Ohai, and Hulda Smith.
5. NHM committee: David Johnson and Adda are on the advisory committee for the new museum.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Sigurdson, Membership