

EWB MID-ATLANTIC PROFESSIONALS CHAPTER MEETING NOTES

Meeting Date: January 14, 2010
Meeting Time: 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Place: CAT 276, Drexel University

0. Introductions

- Walt Walker invited everyone at the meeting to give a short self introduction to the group.
- EWB-MAP welcomed three students and their teacher from Upper Merion High School

1. News and Events

- The annual EWB Conference is scheduled March 18th – 21st in Denver. Early registration fee for EWB member is \$360. If you have a presentation (for example project summary) accepted, EWB will provide \$250 to help defray costs. Also, reduced hotel rate of \$99 per night is available with early registration.
- EWB webinar coming up January 21st at noon. Previous presentations are available through Walt.
- EWB-MAP will provide the featured topic for the January 2010 meeting of the Media, PA chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE). Registration is \$30 including dinner at 7 pm. Walt, Rich, Bob and Amanda will be presenting from 8 to 9 p.m.
- Greater Philadelphia cares - Local project – Neighbors in action – There is a project in the planning phase for February 21th from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Walt will keep the Chapter informed.
- February 26th, Drexel has a scheduled Student Conference on Global Water Sanitation Challenges. Panelists are needed. Registration is free.
http://www.drexel.edu/international/events/2009-10/global_conference/.
- EWB- UPENN – Sasha mentioned that there will be a silent auction held February 27th. He will send an email with particulars. The EWB-UPENN Guatemala project is in need of a mentor that speaks Spanish for a water and sanitation project for a town of 5,000. The well water supply contains sulfur and cyano-bacteria. A filtration option is being explored.

2. Officer and Committee Position Election Results

- Past President – Walt Walker.
- President – Bob DiFilippo.
- Vice President – Russ Turner.
- Treasurer – Rich Cairncross.
- Secretary Renee Philip.
- No change to Project leadership in Rwanda, Philippines or El Salvador teams.
- Events – Stacie Peterson.
- Student Chapter Coordinators Zeeshan Khadim and Samantha Sagett.

3. Project Summaries and Updates

- Bob DiFilippo provided a summary of the Rugerero sanitation project history and present status. Assessment visit travel for second sanitation project is scheduled for February 12th. Fund raising remains a central issue.
- Brian Hamill provided a historical account of the Las Delicias water distribution project currently in the data collection and planning stage. Issues include water quality, water-borne illness, budget for electricity limits time pump can run, and water distribution equity. Assessment trip is being planned for March or April 2010.

- Amanda Jacobs presented a summary of the Apatut, Philippines water supply project (“Water for Life”). Residents of the village currently do not have access to clean water. Water is drawn from current water source - contaminated shallow wells, resulting in water-borne illness. EWB-MAP is partnering with local (Philadelphia and Philippines) Rotary International and a University in the Philippines to develop a plan to tap into a clean natural spring water source a short distance from the town and transfer the clean water to the village. Preliminary design will include water distribution to 3 shared taps. Local University partner will perform land survey. Assessment trip planned for March. Fundraising has collected about \$6,500 of the estimated \$55,000 needed.

4. Upcoming Events

- A Rugerero project meeting was also scheduled for January 14th (after the Chapter meeting).
- A Philippines project meeting was also scheduled for January 14th (after the Chapter meeting).
- A Las Delicias project meeting was also scheduled for January 14th (before and after the Chapter meeting).

5. Next Meetings

- The next EWB-MAP Chapter meeting will convene on **Thursday, February 4th at 6:30 p.m.**