

**Finlandia Foundation Columbia-Pacific Chapter  
Portland State University Finnish Room  
Annual Meeting  
Sunday, March 28th, 2010**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by President Suvi Chisholm at 2:15PM. There were nineteen attendees. She asked Eila Chisholm to take the annual meeting minutes.

**Reading of the Minutes of March 8, 2009 Annual Meeting:** Eila Chisholm read the minutes of the previous annual meeting. She then noted that wording “were elected” needed to be changed to “had been elected” to be clear. Jim Rinta also mentioned that he had made mistake in wording at the previous annual meeting and that it was the Articles of Incorporation for the purposes of the 501(c)(3) application that had been amended. After some discussion, Eila Chisholm moved and Seppo Saarinen seconded to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

**501 (c)(3) Non-Profit Status:** President Suvi Chisholm gave a summary and then asked David Alford to elaborate on the process and the success of getting the non-profit status. David then presented Jim Rinta a recognition plaque for his contribution to that effect.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Dirk Schulbach handed out an Itemized Profit and Loss statement for the year 2009. There was no balance sheet, but Dirk said that the balance in the checking account was approximately \$5500. -- Auditor’s Report: No written report, but Dirk said that auditors, Kaino and Don Leethem, had audited the books. -- David Alford made a motion to resolve that all FFCPC funds from SHF be turned over to FFCPC. Kristi James seconded and the motion carried. – Don Leethem moved to approve the treasurer’s report as presented. Hilja Davis seconded and the motion carried. -- Budget for 2010: There was no budget presented.

**Classroom Rejuvenation:** David Alford gave an update on the classroom and explained that the University has indicated that the plan is to make it a media technology room. He emphasized that PSU should take care of the technology, as it is for the benefit of the students and teachers and not part of the architecture or design of the room. David thanked all the Finnish classroom committee members and presented them with certificates of appreciation. They were Tom Birnie, Eila Chisholm, Hilja Davis, Karin Lahti, Jim Rinta, Judy Gervais Perkiomaki and Leena Ryker. Judy Gervais made a motion that FFCPC be guardians of the room and liaison between the classroom and PSU. Leena Ryker seconded and the motion carried.

**Events 2009/2010:** Eila Chisholm gave a brief summary of the events of 2009, noting that the main event was the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Rededication and Celebration on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Finnish Classroom. FFCPC had also participated in some joint projects with SHF. -- Eila then presented some upcoming events that the board had considered for 2010: Finn Film nights, which would be casual events put on by members; forthcoming Helsinki Academic Male Choir (KYL); a Viking Ship Building lecture in the Finnish Room; Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year (Finn Hall Band) and FF Lecturer of the Year event in October. Eila emphasized that it was important for the Chapter now to reach out to the greater Columbia-Pacific area, such as, participating in the festivals both in Astoria and Naselle. She then read the letter that she had personally written to the Finlandia Foundation National Grants Committee in support of a grant application by the Finnish-American Folk Festival in Naselle David Alford moved that FFCPC would resolve to formally support the grant application by the Finnish-American Folk Festival, as Eila had done personally. Jukka

Perkiomaki seconded and the motion carried. Eila agreed to inform the FF Grants Committee. Kaino Leethem noted that participation at the Midsummer Festival and Scanfair were also important. It was agreed to leave it to the new board to focus on these events as recommended by the membership. A show of hands indicated that there was strong interest in the October FF POY and LOY event and to make arrangements to include Portland in their west coast tour. – Suvi asked for volunteers to help with refreshments for the joint SHF/FFCPC upcoming KYL concert. – Seppo Saarinen pointed out that we, the Finnish people, as part of a larger community need to be positive and stick together.

**Election of 2010 Board of Directors:** President Suvi Chisholm stated that only members in good standing were eligible to vote. She then presented the Nominating Committee report on behalf of Inkeri Martin who was not able to be present and thanked her for chairing it. She thanked the board for their work, noting that terms of Eila Chisholm and Dirk Schulbach were ending and that David Alford and Elisa Boynton had stepped in to fill vacancies. She also said that unfortunately she would not be able to continue to serve on the board at this time and thanked everyone for having had the opportunity. Suvi then presented the slate of candidates: David Alford, Elisa Boynton, Jukka Perkiomaki and Dirk Schulbach. She then asked for nominations from the floor explaining that the board must have a minimum of five members. Nominees from the floor were the following: Seppo Saarinen, Jim Rinta, Dennis Usitalo and Ray Wickman. David Alford moved and Eila Chisholm seconded that the nominations be closed and that the board would have seven members. Motion carried. Hilja Davis and Sophia Johnson were chosen as tellers and the ballots were distributed. There was a tie between Elisa Boynton and Ray Wickman and thus a second ballot was made to break the tie. The final results for the board were: David Alford, Elisa Boynton, Jukka Perkiomaki, Jim Rinta, Seppo Saarinen, Dirk Schulbach and Dennis Usitalo. It was agreed by consensus that the board would choose amongst themselves who would be serving either one or two year terms. The board chooses its own officers. – **Election of Auditors:** Ray Wickman moved and Don Leethem seconded that Denver James and Eila Chisholm to be auditors of the books. Motion carried.

Suvi thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and invited everyone to stay for more refreshments and to watch the movie The Cuckoo. However, due to the length of the meeting everyone was anxious to leave.

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eila S. Chisholm