



Finlandia Foundation® Columbia-Pacific Chapter

Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2011
2:00 – 4:30
Portland State University
Cramer Hall
Finnish Classroom

Board Members

Present: Dennis Usitalo, Jim Rinta, Seppo Saarinen, Jukka Perkiomaki, David Alford, Elisa Boynton

Absent: Dirk Schulbach

Quorum present? Yes

The meeting started at 2:23

Seppo requested an itemization of cost and income from our events. E-mails from Dirk showed an income / cost break down for the events we have sponsored.

We should have a donation jar available for our events; there is an opportunity to get a small donation from these events. We need to solicit additional help for our events. There are several things that we could do to improve our activities. There are lots of opportunities to collect additional funds. We should continue doing what we are doing. The model we used this year is a good fit for our chapter.

We might need to look for a larger space for our **Boris Sirpo Award** program for strings. We need to have it before Thanksgiving. We should also include other organizations to promote the **Boris Sirpo Award** program.

We learned from the first **Boris Sirpo Award** program we need to come up with a strategy for collecting funds. Are we going to continue doing this annually? We need to have a team and program so we can support it properly. David made a motion to continue the **Boris Sirpo Award** event. Jukka seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. We will continue this event yearly.

Next year, should we offer a **Wilho Saari Award** for an outstanding Kantelle student? David suggested he could solicit awards from other organizations. We should give certificates for others who participate. David, Elisa and Dennis will develop a team to

come up with strategies for the program. Elisa made a motion to assign a team to come up with strategies to address culture events to showcase music/culture and report to the Board every board meeting. David seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. David made a motion to create a **Wilho Saari Award** for Kantelle. Elisa seconded and it passed unanimously. \$90.55 was collected for this award.

It is FFCPC commitment to bring value to this award and to continue to promote Finnish Culture.

Suomen Kulttuurirahasto sponsors and pays the way for Finnish groups. We discussed three different Finnish groups coming to Portland. We need to study these and choose one and develop a plan. One group is artistic dance. The second group is a contemporary male choir. The third band is popular music. We need to look on You-tube and make a decision within a week. Applications are due in Finland at the end of February. Each of us will send our selection to Elisa.

Jukka made a motion to move ahead with one of the performing groups. David seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. We will make sure we like and can promote one of these groups.

We have three presentations being developed that will address the history and how the Nokia, Sisu Trucks and Finnish Composers groups came about.. We need to come up with dates for the presentations. David will work with Tom Birnie for room availability. David said he would coordinate efforts for the lectures and approach Dirk for SHF lecture times and dates so we are not in conflict with their lectures. Judy suggested an idea for another Finnish lecture. We should find someone to give a lecture on the story of Linux computers.

We have a space reserved for our first annual **Mannerheim Dinner**. We will be holding the dinner at the Parkway North location on PSU campus. PSU will bring in tables, chairs, and a podium. London broil, chicken and a vegetarian dinner are options to consider. It was suggested we cut Karjan Pirakka for a hors d'oeuvre and provide some Finnish dessert. It was suggested a fee of \$30 dollars a plate be charged for the event. We need to have a leader to organize this event. Judy volunteered to take on the organization of the **Mannerheim Dinner**. David made a motion the event be a buffet style using PSU menu as provided by Seppo and Judy. Jukka seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jukka made a motion that the cost be \$30. David seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. David made a motion that we collect donations for Nordic Center in the name of FFCPC. Elisa seconded the motion. It passed with one abstention and 5 yes votes.

Seppo asked for volunteers to review By-Laws. David, Seppo, Jukka and Jim volunteered.

We need to have two more Board meetings before the Annual Meeting. The first meeting will be on February 6th, and the second on February 27th.

Seppo reported the FFCPC website has been successful. There have been positive comments from members.

David brought up the fact that we should recognize Paul Niskanen for 30 years as Honorary Finnish Counsel. Jukka made a motion to invite the former Honorary Counsel and his wife to the **Mannerhiem Dinner**. David seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

David made a motion that we support the Viking Ship organization. Jukka seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

There was a short discussion about a Vappu celebration in May and New Year's celebration next December 2011. No decisions were made.

At 4:40 the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Rinta