

**Jamaican Mission Program
Board of Directors Meeting
February 15, 2011**

Directors Present: Bryan Myers, Nichole Myers, Cindy Olson, Linda Wanless, and Rob Wanless.

Guests Present: Erin Linscheid, Ainsley Myers, Joey Parkhurst, Amy Pepich, Hannah Pepich, and Barb Smith.

Agenda

- Call Meeting To Order
- Approval of the December 21, 2010
- Treasurer's Report
- Business
 - Trip Review
 - 2011 JMP Schedule
 - Family Trip
- Westhaven Udate
- Next Meeting Information
- Adjourn

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** President Bryan Myers called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. He thanked Nichole for making great curried goat for dinner.
- 2. Approval of the December 21, 2010 Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by Cindy Olson and was seconded by Linda Wanless to approve the December 21, 2010 meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.
- 3. Treasurer's Report:** Dave Kepler, Treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting. The financial information was distributed and discussed.

December Financials:

Starting Balance (12.01.10): \$5526.07
Deposits: \$150.00 (Silent Auction payment)
Withdrawals: \$15.45 (The Richland Observer)
Ending Balance (12.21.10): \$5676.07

January Financials:

Starting Balance (1.1.11): \$5676.07
Deposits: \$0
Withdrawals: \$4000.00
Ending Balance (1.31.11): \$1676.07

Bryan Myers reviewed the recent trip expenses.

\$10.00 SIM card for Jamaican telephone

\$500 donation to Mission Jamaica for Westhaven

\$1000 donation to Mission Jamaica for project supplies

\$1200 to Jermaine for transportation

\$750 Jamaican Labor

- \$150 – Jermaine
- \$150 – Nozzie
- \$150 – Thomas
- \$100 – Jeff
- \$100 – Andrew
- \$50 – Hugh
- \$50 – Clement

\$600 to Jermaine for Rewald mission trip

Amy and Hannah Pepich made cash donations in the amount of \$1150 to Ms. Grant and Westhaven that were collected via local fundraisers for Westhaven directly (not donations to JMP).

Discussion was held regarding 2010 and 2011 expenses. The final determination was that the increased costs were appropriate. When there are more people, a bigger, better impact can be made at Westhaven and that is the goal of our trips.

A motion was made by Linda Wanless and was seconded by Cindy Olson to approve the Treasurer's Report as reviewed. All in favor, motion carried.

4. Business

a. Trip Review

- i. Booking with Linda Kutzke and Jefferson Travel – This worked well again this year. Linda did a good job for us and is always helpful. All agreed that this arrangement should be kept for future years.
- ii. Clarion Hotel in Milwaukee – Great choice.
- iii. Flying out of Milwaukee – Good choice.
- iv. Sunset Beach – There were some issues this year regarding rooms, towels, safe locks, and baby cribs. Bryan noted that Tower A's remodel was financed by Canadian travel agency, Sunquest. A few floors in Tower B have been remodeled and the rest is reportedly scheduled for renovation this year. Discussion was held regarding booking with this travel agency in order to be able to stay in the new rooms. This is an option that will be explored for next year. Discussion was also held regarding researching other hotel options in Montego Bay. If we opt to stay at Sunset Beach in the future, we may consider working with group sales.

- v. Transportation with Jermaine – Everyone was very pleased with Jermaine. He is a very courteous, professional, and safe driver. We will definitely use him in the future!
- vi. Westhaven – Work with the children was fun and satisfying as previous years. The dresses from Our House went over very well. The ladies are already making plans for next year’s donation. The construction project went well and the project coordination with Jeff was ideal. All who attended service at Faith Chapel found it to be an enjoyable experience.
- vii. Vacation Day in Negril – Everyone had a great time. The snorkeling option this year was much better. All who snorkeled appreciated having a guided tour of the reef.
- viii. Zipline – Was a good trip. Cost was \$89 per person for five lines. All who went recommended the trip.
- ix. Shopping – It was a fun experience that everyone enjoyed.
- x. Other:
 - 1. Amy Pepich noted that communication could be improved for new volunteers. A way to do this might be with individual mentors paired up with new volunteers. Bryan mentioned that a scheduled, nightly meeting and a message board in the lobby could also be helpful communication tools for the future.
 - 2. Bryan Myers will be going on the WRCO Morning Show to talk about the trip. He plans to read Ms. Grant’s letter since it is truly a thank you to the generosity of this community, not just the volunteers who went on the trip. He asked for personal stories that he could share on the radio. Please email him with more stories.
 - 3. Rob Wanless asked the group what this trip did for them. How were you moved by this trip?
 - a. Rob shared a personal story of the first moments of his first visit to Westhaven. He contrasted that with how he feels now as he arrives each day and how he never expected to feel like this. He went on to add that what we do here matters and it is important!
 - b. Bryan shared a story about the rasta on the bridge. We stopped to take pictures of him as a spectacle, however he thanked us for coming to Jamaica and for our work at the orphanage.
 - c. Amy commented that she and Hannah make daily references to the children at Westhaven in various different ways. They miss the children and think about them often.
 - d. Barb Smith and Cindy Olson both commented that Westhaven is both overwhelming yet addicting.

4. Bryan asked if there was anything else that we as an organization could do to prepare new volunteers?
 - a. It was noted that volunteers could be better prepared for the profound disabilities they will witness. This could be done with revised cottage books and more in depth pre-trip trainings.
 5. Also discussed was the overall flexibility of our group and lack of job "assignments."
- b. 2011 JMP Schedule
 - i. Spring – Bowling tournament or Waffle Supper
 - ii. Summer – County Fair
 1. Skewered Jerk Pork, Soda, Baked Goods, and Caramel Apples.
 - iii. Fall – Waffle Supper with trip talk
 - iv. 2012 Trip – January 11 – January 18, 2012
 - c. Family Trip
 - i. Linda Wanless has been approached by several families with children younger than 12 who would like to volunteer at Westhaven. Discussion was held regarding this possibility. Bryan indicated that if someone was interested in leading such a group, he would help make any needed arrangements.

5. Next Meeting Information: The next JMP meeting is scheduled for:

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

At 6:30 PM

Hosted by Cindy Olson

6. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned by Bryan Myers at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nichole Myers

Jamaican Mission Program Secretary