

IWA BOARD MEETING 1/08/14

Venue: 3325 Putnam Street

Time: 7:00 pm – 10 pm

Present: Rashmi Chaturvedi, Punam Mittal, Anju Dev, Sangita Handa, Meena Narsimhan, Debjaya Panigrahi, Lakshmi Garimella, Veena Saagi.

Welcome

New co-president, Lakshmi and new board member, Debjaya were welcomed by the board.

1. ONGOING PROJECTS

a. Cookbook

- I. Sale of cookbooks: All the cookbooks were reported to be sold. Two of them have yet to be delivered since the buyers have not supplied updated addresses.
- II. Preparation of e-book – Charu and Meena to work on it eventually. Sangita offered to help since she has some experience with preparing an e-book.

b. **IWA Directory** – Charu Balachander has graciously agreed to work on the 2014 Directory. Members were requested to start collecting ads for the new IWA directory. Rates for placing ads are as before: \$50 for full page ad, \$25 for half-page ad and \$15 for quarter-page ad. Following businesses, and possibly more, shall be contacted to check for renewal/placing of their ads in the directory: Food Mart, Kumon, Black Belt Academy, Garam Masala, , Khana Khazana, Best Buy Motors, Ami's Catering, Sharma's kitchen, Sarita Dani's dance academy, and business services by Amisha Patel, Sneh Arora, Amber Hill, Jyoti Patel, Shilpa Merwade and Gaura Mehresh.

c. **Yoga Classes** – Yoga classes will be continued once a week on Monday evenings with Veena Sagi and Manju Jarori as instructors. Location to be BTCCGL as before. Information about Yoga classes will be disseminated through emails, Facebook and through ASHA members to encourage more participation. Various yoga poses and breathing techniques taught during the workshop in September 2013 have been illustrated and compiled in a document by Veena and Vinod Sagi. This document shall be inserted in an issue of Sanskriti.

d. **Dancercise Classes** – Chandni Shah will be requested to continue this program which was enjoyed thoroughly by several participants.

e. **Garba sponsorship** – Members decided to continue the annual garba sponsorship although there were mixed feelings about the benefit of it to IWA.

f. Partnership with local and international organizations

- ASHA/Purdue Chapter. It was proposed that partnership with ASHA was beneficial overall and therefore, would be continued, with joint programs such as Summer Internships, 5K Run/Walk, musical evening. A meeting with ASHA members to be scheduled soon.
- YWCA – This partnership was an enormous success last year and therefore shall be continued. A meeting with YWCA executive members to be scheduled soon.

Discussion on partnership with local organizations such Bauer's Services was tabled for future revisit.

- ICRW – Partnership with this organization is likely to be continued but no decision was made on the mode.

2. **MEMBERSHIP** – Initially weekly reminders shall be sent to current and prospective members to renew or start their memberships. Later, by middle of January, unpaid members and non-members shall be contacted and encouraged to renew/join IWA. Membership fee to remain at \$25 annually.

3. **EVENT CALENDAR FOR FALL 2014 (tentative)**

- **Welcome Party** – Feb 15, (possibly lunch party, food cans to be collected for Food Pantry, games)
- **Holi** – March 15 (information to members to be sent out soon)
- **Picnic** – September 6 (format to be sports activities for adults and children)
- **Garba** – September 27 (Prasad made for a day by IWA members?)
- **Diwali** – October 18 (possibly combined with COI event)
- **Holiday Party** – December 6

Discussions about organizing COI event this year were tabled to future meetings.

4. **ROLE DEFINITIONS FOR IWA MEMBERS** – In order to improve effectiveness of the organization, and to promote involvement of IWA members in running the tasks of IWA, certain roles were defined for several non-board members:

- Archivist/Historia – Sujatha Ramani
- Marketing and Communications – Ranjani Rao
- Web design and development – Gayathri Krishnan
- IWA lead for YWCA – Aparna Puri
- Yoga Instructors – Veena Sagi and Manju Jarori
- Marketing team – Anu Subramaniam, R witty Roy
- Dancercise Instructor (if feasible) – Chandni Shah

5. **BUDGET** – Renu Bajaj presented the financial information for year 2013. A question was raised: should we start charging tickets for Welcome party and Holiday party. Examination of the budget for 2013 suggested that it was in sufficiently good shape at this point to continue to allow no charges to members for welcome and holiday parties.

6. **INSURANCE RENEWAL AND TAX PREPARATION** – Hema Suresh to be assisted by Renu Bajaj.

7. **IWA BANNER AND SLOGAN** – IWA members shall be invited through e-mail to submit their thoughts about what IWA means to them. The most appropriate submission will be converted into a slogan presented on an IWA banner. R witty will design the actual banner.

8. Next board meeting – February 2nd.