

# EAST WEST CENTER PARTICIPANTS ASSOCIATION (EWCPA)

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## Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Hale Halawai, 9:00pm-10:00pm

**INTRODUCTION:** see attached attendees list.

### EWCPA BOARD UPDATES

1. Coffee hours at the Friendship circle:
  - Travis and Maria-Christina have run trial weekly coffee hours at Friendship Circle, Hale Manoa and Hale Kuahine. The feedback from participants in Hale Manoa and at Friendship Circle was positive and around 20 people showed up each time. The situation in Hale Kuahine was not that good and after trial period, Travis and Maria-Christina have decided to run the coffee hours in Friendship Circle and Hale Manoa only.
  - The coffee hours time will rotate to fit into different class schedules of Hale Manoa residents and announcement of the time will be sent weekly via listserv and by elevator flyer.
  - Both coffee and tea will be served at the Coffee hours.
  - The idea of coffee hours at the Friendship circle was officially approved by board members.
2. Weekly movie:
  - A movie request form will be prepared by Francisca and be made available to EWC participants to solicit ideas.
  - The coffee hours will be combined with outside movie on the lawn whenever an outside movie is scheduled and when appropriate.
3. Website:

EWC website is ready and awaits for EWCPA board update. EWCPA site will be updated with pictures and details of the Board member – the same as those on the bulletin board. A group photo of the EWCPA Board will also be posted there.
4. Bulletin board update:

Pictures of the EWCPA Board members with information on nationality, scholarship program, award period and academic program were posted in EWCPA bulletin board.
5. EWCPA regular and Town Hall meeting:
  - The Board agreed that Town Hall Meeting will be organized twice a year at beginning of each semester, e.g. end of January and early new school year.
  - The Board had agreed the regular monthly meeting which is scheduled on Wednesday night from 9 pm to 10 pm will be open to public to provide EWC participants an opportunity to voice their ideas and suggestions. However, one issue arises is that time conflict with Wednesday seminar may hinder public participation to EWCPA meeting.
6. Community service activities:
  - Community service activity coordinator (Robert Peel) followed up with an idea of applying additional budget to print EWC T-shirts and provide them for EWC participants/EWC volunteers as a way to promote EWC especially in public events. Sophronia Smith – new

- Activities Coordinator has expertise in grant writing and she has agreed to help with grant writing if needed.
- Some suggested that in order to make fund application more achievable, it is necessary to mention specific events and proposal of making T-shirts for those volunteer at the events.
7. Debrief of meeting between EWCPA new Board and EWC:  
To update those missed the meeting between EWCPA new Board and EWC (Mendl, Marry and Steila), President Lucas debriefed on key points what were stressed at the meeting:
- When planning EWCPA activities, for religious sensitivity, do not to refer to religions by country. It is fine to refer to religions by geographic areas such as religions in South East Asia/Asia Pacific.
  - Given busy working schedule and travel leave of EWC staff, EWCPA need to reserve a weekend for EWC Fest with EWC as soon as possible.
8. Cultural night will be postponed to November. Specific time to be announced.

### **PRESENTATION ON SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES**

Bryan Bushley showed up at the meeting and presented the sustainability initiatives for EWCPA Board consideration of creating a new EWCPA position of Sustainability Coordinator.

- The objective of the Sustainability Initiatives is to promote practice of recycling at EWC community, promote public awareness on the issue of sustainable development, and incorporate EWC sustainable development program to that of UH Manoa.
- The Sustainability Initiatives now do recycling of cans and bottles. Papers collecting for recycle will start next week.
- In addition to the Recycling component, the Sustainability Initiatives has a gardening component which has been run for a couple of years but its popularity among EWC participants is relatively modest.
- To promote information of the Garden component among EWC participants especially new comers, EWCPA discussed including a session on the Sustainability Initiatives in orientation program at beginning of semester.
- Raising public awareness on the issue will be promoted through public events such as films and speakers presentation.
- EWC Sustainability Initiatives have additionally collaborated with Sustainability Initiatives in the UH for joint events.
- Boar members agreed on a new EWCPA position of Sustainability Development Coordinator and recognized Bryan as Sustainability Development Coordinator.

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

1. Coming Halloween party:
  - An estimated cost is prepared by EWCPA treasurer and pending for approval. In order to make a budget estimate for the event, there is a need for information of number of pumpkins that will be used for pumpkin carving contest. Amanda – Spouse Representative is to find out the costs associated with decorations and pumpkins and to email the estimates costs to Alan – EWCPA Treasurer.
  - The Pumpkin carving and costume contest will be judged by a panel of 3 members one from EWC (Mendl), 1 representative from Alumni Association and another representative from the Executive Board.
  - Halloween party is on Saturday night, 28<sup>th</sup> October.

- The Board are still in process of discussing prizes for costume and pumpkin carving contest. One of the suggestions is a set of cooking utensils that can be shared by winning team members.
  - Sign up sheet for pumpkin carving contest will be prepared and circulated by Amanda. Teams sign up by floors.
2. EWC Alumni Association Events
- EWCA Hawaii Chapter Annual Dinner: Saturday, April 21. Most likely at the Willows Restaurant (doing price check with Ala Moana Hotel).
  - EWCA Executive Board Annual Dinner May/June. Trying to get the princess of Thailand to be the guest of honor.

### **NEW INITIATIVES**

- Storage for surf boards: Hale Rep. Jawee proposed to build a surf-board storage locker for EWC Hale Manoa residents given the fact that many surfing participants have to accommodate their surf boards in their room. Location of the storage locker - outside or on ground-floor was discussed. Other issues such as security for surf board, cost sharing in form of a small fee per semester to sustain the initiative were also discussed. EWCP Board is to work with EWC Facilities Department on this proposal.
- Weekly movie of Hale Kuehine was raised and discussed among the board members.
- List of proposed events: a proposal list with events in order of importance and time for members to vote was suggested.
- International Kids Day: November 21 is International Kids Day. EWCPA is considering an event for children of EWC participants and also consider inviting homeless kids in the community to join the event.

**ATTENDEES LIST**

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