

MINUTES – Guatemala Stove Project
Perth, Ottawa and Extended Volunteer Zoom Meeting
June 1, 2021

1. Chair: Paul Minute taker: Tammy
Present: Rita, Liz, Norah, Terri, Bob, Joni, Bill, Judy, Livio, Lynn, Phil, Rob, Janet, Ishim, Ken
Regrets: Erika, Holly, Pierre
Note: Action Item starting with an **

2. Review and acceptance of minutes from April 20, 2021
Motion to accept made by Norah, seconded by Janet

3. Update of Situation in Guatemala from Ishim
Most people in Guatemala don't want the vaccine - they have been told by the church it may cause side effects, affect fertility etc. The inflation rate is very high. The price for vegetables, meat and food for animals have gone up significantly. Children are back in school 3x/week for 2 hrs at a time. Online learning does not work for many as families do not have internet. Cantel is in a red zone so schools are not open and children are not learning.
There are definite problems relating to climate change; extremely hot today, yesterday rained so much it is causing flooding in peoples homes.
Many people are out of work and there has been no help from the government. COVID has caused an increase in people trying to immigrate to the United States.

4. Upcoming Events/Presentations
In April and May we received approximately \$6,000 for stoves and other donations. This was mainly in response to a mail chimp notice Liz sent to our contacts encouraging donations in lieu of the Covid cancellation of the Mother of a Dinner event.

*** *Action – Liz to send out a thank you by email to everyone for their donations. She will include an update on the situation in Guatemala and give the date/location of the A.G.M.**
****Action – Liz (with Janet and Rita in attendance) is doing a Zoom presentation to the UCW of Rideau Park United Church on June 7th.** This presentation was scheduled earlier so we have received their donations. Paul thought approximately 2-3 stoves were donated.

Tom thanked Phil for the excellent interview he did with the Humm in March.

**** Action: Rob to include a thank you on his June 5 f/b post for everyone's generous donations to the Guatemala Stove Project.**

5. Update of Grant Advance
The beginning of May, Liz sent 10 Letters of Inquiry requesting money for 20 – 50 stoves. She explained who we are and included pics of the stoves. She also sent Letters of Inquiry to Foundations that offer smaller amounts of money (to be used for school stoves).

6. Progress on New Brochure
Janet said Erika (absent tonight) was co-coordinating the brochure – there is still work to be done on the text. There were questions about the # of brochures to be printed and if the cost for school stoves should go from \$550 to \$600. Ishim stated there was a shortage of steel and the price for it has definitely gone up.

7. Date for 2019-2020 Annual General Meeting

Sunday, August 15, 01:00 pm in Stewart Park near the Millennium Gate or as a Zoom meeting dependent on weather and Covid restrictions at the time.

8. Past Events

Stove building training has taken place and now there are 2 new masons to build for AMMID.

9. Discussion about Facebook Posting

Rita said is important to keep a presence on the G.S.P. f/b page. She made a schedule, changed the permission settings and 7 people volunteered to do postings. Paul and Janet mentioned it wasn't easy to a post on the G.S.P. page. A supporter told Janet they couldn't re-post because the post said "when I". Janet also felt when there is a video or picture credit should be given.

**** Action: Lynn's daughter is very versed in social media – she will ask her to advise us. She also noted our Instagram page is not active.**

Next GSP volunteer meeting Tuesday, July 13, 2021 7pm

Zoom or at Coutts depending on Covid protocol

**** Action: Rita will bring laptop if we are at Coutts**

Meeting adjourned 08:10 pm moved by Janet, seconded by Phil