

MINUTES OF THE 12-08-2008 CHAPTER MEETING
OF
MINNESOTA CHAPTER 18 QWEST PIONEERS

In Attendance:	Kathy Hanson	Deb Caris	Harry Osborn
	LuAnn Chambliss	Al Barthel	Carol Barthel
	Dave Hemmer	Barb Hemmer	Ralph Hunstad
	Mavis Hjulberg	Sally Bolster	Roger Hanson
	Sheryl Wold	Jan Swenson	LaVaughn Osborn
	Vollie Sanders	Betty Sanders	Paula Trapp
			Joe Swenson

Kathy opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. She thanked members for the generous collection of mittens, hats and socks for people in need. 65 items were collected, some of the packages contained several pairs of socks too. Items will be distributed to agencies serving homeless and others in need of the items.

Today, all during the meeting, members will be decorating holiday stockings and giving the 65 stockings to St. Joseph Childrens Home in Mpls. 40 stockings have already been donated to Home Free organization in Plymouth.

Secretary's minutes of the 3rd quarter chapter meeting were distributed and read by members. Motion to approve made by Vollie Sanders and seconded by Carol Barthel – Motion passed

Treasurer's report was read – Paula Trapp stressed inventory of each council and club needs to be completed. Motion made to approve by Vollie Sanders and motion seconded by Harry Osborn - Motion passed

Reports were presented by committee chairs. Paula Trapp who is stepping down from her Chapter Treasurer office stated she will remain chair of the Cookbook and Scholarship Committee.

Awards, Sheryl Wold shared that 5 awards have been submitted for consideration for recognition at the Telecom Pioneers Annual Meeting in February 2009.

Community Service, Vollie Sanders reported he and Betty partnered with the Minnesota Vikings players and their wives to present Viking themed Hug-a-Bears at the University of Minnesota Childrens Hospital.

EZ Help 911, Gary Greb's report of cell phones donated to organizations and cell phones received in and around the metro area and the St.Cloud area was given by Dave Hemmer.

The Family Campers reported they have a new Wagonmaster, Bill Lovegren of Annandale. Dallas and Lorna Leier will host the Spring 2009 campout. The group has implemented a new policy of having the hosts of each campout donate \$100 to a charity of their choice.

Calendar Committee: 777 calendars have been sold and \$23,210.00 has been collected. Roger Hanson said \$30,000 would be needed to cover 4 scholarships and fundraising costs. The first drawing is Jan. 21, 2009 Dave Hemmer commended Jan Swenson for the amazing job she does to input data on calendar buyers and making it so easy for those who sell the fundraising calendars. Sally Bolster presented the Life Member Representatives report of 7 meetings and events she and Mavis Hjulber attended since September 2008.

Membership Committee chair LuAnn Chambliss had no changes to report. She and Jan made a plea for everyone to keep them informed about retirements and deaths they know of so we can keep our records accurate.

MS TRAM – Dave Hemmer reported the event will be July 26-31 2009 and will truly go from border to border, passing right in front of the Kathy & Roger Hanson home in New Prague. Dave states he will not co-chair the ride team and Al Barthel will not captain the ride team so new leadership is being sought. Dave will continue to chair the staffing and organizing of *Famous Rest Stop #3*. Discussion was held on how to get MS TRAM donations to count in the Chapter's charitable donation percentages. Other donations of cell phones and items such as fresh produce and knitted items should be considered as part of the "percentage" equation for the chapter.

Participation Chair Carol Barthel stated she felt the PALS training received at regional training Oct 08 was excellent and had much praise for Trish Zimmerman as the training instructor. Carol says Minnesota is #2 in participation hours reporting and so far in 2008 has 50,894 hours which is more than last year.

Literacy Committee – Jan Swenson gave this report telling of a recent Readers for Life event at Aurora Charter School. Qwest Pioneers partnered with the USA Womens Hockey Team members. There were several other Qwest representative present and good media coverage.

Carol Barthel shared that a Talking Books Repair group is up and running in Central Council now

OLD BUSINESS

A previously tabled donation request from Gary Greb at the 3rd quarter chapter meeting to donate \$1000.00 to the JDRF walk if he was able to get 10 people to sign up and walk as a Qwest Pioneer team was re-opened. Gary was not present at this meeting so could not confirm if these conditions have been met yet. Vollie Sanders moved to donate the \$1000.00 if the conditions are met and the motion was seconded by Jan Swenson and motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Webmaster Dave Hemmer distributed CDs with all items shared at Regional Training. CDs have information about the new logo to be used on all communications regarding Pioneers and other forms and information for councils and clubs such as revised vouchers. Dave brought the CD on his laptop and showed the group some of the forms and how to maneuver around them.

Kathy H, told of the receipt of a \$500.00 Dodds Foundation grant to purchase "Power Up to Read" kits and distribute them at schools where Readers for Life events are held and other schools where we have not been able to gain access. School can review the program privately and make decisions themselves about implementing it.

Kathy shared a letter about a Daffodil Days fundraiser for American Cancer Society and volunteers are needed to sell in locations.

Jan requested approval to spend up to \$50.00 for a one year enrollment in program, People Search, which will help in locating lost member addresses and contribute to a more accurate PALS database. Jan's motion was seconded by Vollie Sanders and motion passed.

Treasurer Items:

In 2009, as a charitable organization (501C3), Telecom Pioneers chapters have the obligation to meet a 60% minimum of its funds donated to charity and 40% for administrative purposes. Al should have 2008 year end results at the March 2009 chapter meeting. In 2010 the minimum will be 65% to charity and 35% to administrative and will remain at that level.

Our challenge is to creatively fundraise and examine whether we are accounting our donating and administrative costs properly in order to support charitable giving and administrative needs. Our reality is a shrinking dues-paying member base because the company just does not have as many active employees and

Pioneers are not embracing the offerings of our Affinity partners at the level needed to generate significant funds to the chapter.

Kathy told the group she had agreed to allow a one-time mailing to MN Chapter members some information regarding a Telephone History Project.

Each Council and Club should turn in its 2009 budget and schedule of events and meetings to Harry Osborn the 2009 Chapter President.

Kathy welcomed the new Chapter President Harry Osborn who has already attended officer training in Denver.

Discussion was held, looking for information, on a few PAC issued checks that have not yet cleared.

Carol Barthel encouraged members and all treasurers to take the on-line PAC training offered. Contact is: sarahuffman@telecompioneers.org or 303-571-9247 She emphasized that every person who handled Pioneer money should attend the training!

Discussion again about the truck in Jackson MN and what it could be used for. No resolution on the subject.

Harry announced 2009 chapter meeting date of 03-20-2009 at 2800 Wayzata Blvd. He invited Central Council and Harley Forsythe Life Member Club to host the 2nd quarter meeting in St. Cloud. March 20 is the First Day of Spring!

Harry requested he be kept informed about any upcoming events so he could get them on his schedule and attend.

Joe Swenson brought up the topic of space for Pioneer History Museum. Discussion had so resolution other than Harry Osborn will bring up the subject at a meeting with John Stanoch.

Donation Requests were made for the following:

Twin City Chapter of the American Red Cross Amount: \$200.
B. Sanders made motion to donate, D. Hemmer seconded-Motion passed

Emergency Food Shelf Network Amount: \$200.
Harry Osborn made motion to donate, V. Sanders seconded – Motion passed

Hunger Solutions Amount: \$200
L.Chambliss made motion, D. Hemmer seconded-Motion Passed

St.Joseph Home for Children Amount: \$200.
C. Barthel made motion, V. Sanders seconded-Motion Passed

Meeting Adjourned by Motion

Submitted By: Kathy Hanson

