

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
United States Section
Steering Committee Meeting
September 12, 2014

Facilitator: Mary Hanson Harrison

Note Taker: Deb Holley

Steering Committee Members in Attendance: Mary Hanson Harrison, Altaira Hatton, Barbara Nielsen, Odile Hugonot Haber, Deb Garretson, Nicole Scott, Robin Lloyd, Deb Holley

Steering Committee Members Not in Attendance: None

Meeting called to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm CDT by Mary Hanson Harrison, president. Mary told the board that there was only one item on the agenda for the meeting, and that was to decide to accept or reject the recommendation from the Personnel Committee to hire an Interim Executive Director and a Transition Consultant through a consulting firm, Third Sector New England. She mentioned that if there were any questions after the meeting, they should be sent to Deb Holley, Board Secretary.

She then quoted Jane Addams from 1919, when Jane said, "We shall have to learn to use moral energy to put a new sort of force into the world and believe that it is a vital thing – the only thing, in this moment of sorrow and death and destruction that will heal the world..."

Review of recommendation from the Personnel Committee: The members of the Steering Committee had earlier each received a report outlining a proposed schedule which had been created during the Personnel Committee call held the previous day on September 11, 2014. The Personnel Committee had already discussed a list of specific tasks for each of the two proposed positions, the availability of funds to pay the consulting group and two positions, if engaged, and the benefits of using TSNE (Third Sector New England) over other consulting firms. The proposed schedule set up a time line for the actual hiring of the consultants, the meeting of possible candidates for Interim Executive Director, the selection of an Interim Executive Director, and completion of the contracts for the two positions.

Mary asked if everyone had read the Personnel Committee's proposal and there was a quick review of the proposal. She then asked if there were additional questions. There were some general comments, all supporting the proposal to hire TSNE as a consultant for US WILPF; most questions had already been discussed and resolved prior to the Steering Committee meeting. Mary mentioned that there would be several WILPF members who had volunteered to work in the office, including herself, over the next several weeks, to oversee the transition from Ria's leaving to the arrival of the new interim Executive Director.

At that time, Mary asked Deb Holley, board secretary, to take a vote count. The vote was to accept or reject the hiring of Third Sector New England, consulting firm, to guide U.S. WILPF through transition, including the employment of two persons, an Interim Executive Director, and a Transition Consultant. Deb made the roll call:

Mary Hanson Harrison – yes

Altaira Hatton – yes

Barbara Nielsen – yes

Odile Hugonot Haber - yes

Deb Garretson – yes

Nicole Scott – yes

Robin Lloyd - yes

Deb Holley - yes

The Steering Committee passed, by consensus, the proposal to hire the Third Sector New England consulting firm to provide expertise, including an interim Executive Director and a Transition Consultant, to aid WILPF US in transitioning to a sustainable future.

Mary congratulated the Steering Committee on arriving at a decision to move ahead. The Personnel Committee would continue with the schedule as laid out in their September 11, 2014 report.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Holley
Board Secretary