

Minutes of the Meeting of WILPF US Board of Directors

November 17, 2015  
Held via teleconferencing

**Board members present:**

President: Mary Hanson Harrison  
Secretary: Candace Perry  
Chair of the Membership Development Committee: LaShawndra Vernon  
Chair of the Nominating Committee: Barbara Nielsen  
Chair of the Personnel Committee: Nicole Scott  
Chair of the Program Committee: Maureen Ngozi Eke  
At-large Board Member: Ann Fleischli  
At-large Board Member: Marybeth Gardam  
US Section Member of the International Board, Melissa Torres

**Board members not present:**

Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee: Millee Livingston  
Chair of the Program Committee: Odile Hugonot Haber

**WILPF members, non-Board present:** Joan Bazar, Deb Garretson, Robin Lloyd, Nancy Ramsden, Joan Goddard

**Also present:**

Darien De Lu, Dashboard facilitator  
Lamia Sadek, Managing Director

The Board convened in Open session, via teleconference call, at 8:30 pm (EST). LaShawndra Vernon facilitated. Anne renewed her rejection to LaShawndra serving as facilitator.

The minutes from the Sept. board meeting were sent in advance and received no corrections. The minutes were approved with Barbara standing aside. Candace clarified that board members send their reports directly to other board members. As secretary, she will forward board reports to any non-board members requesting such.

Mary gave her president's report and noted that more details would be in her upcoming "President's Corner." Please see [http://myemail.constantcontact.com/President-s-Corner--November-2015.html?soid=1121720227619&aid=D-Zmrb8JD\\_w](http://myemail.constantcontact.com/President-s-Corner--November-2015.html?soid=1121720227619&aid=D-Zmrb8JD_w) . Mary also called attention to the need for a committee to plan the 2017 national WILPF congress.

Lamia gave her managing director's report, focusing on the details of filing all required financial tax forms. Anne and Barbara clarified some of the history of WILPF's status as a 501(c)3.

Maureen and Odile sent a brief written report on the October program retreat to the board in advance of the board meeting. Maureen made a thorough report from the retreat, noting the three primary goals which resulted:

1. The need to grow WILPF by focusing more on programs, raising issues and generating actions which in turn would recruit new members and enhance fundraising for WILPF.
2. Improve all communications with our lists, within our board, between branch and national, between issues committees and branches. Also between WILPF and the public by

focusing more on alternative medias.

3. Growing our programs connecting more with international WILPF, the United Nations programs and our sister sections, working our program together as one focus, capitalize on our past assets, the fact that we are an international organization, and that we have many sections that are active, as well as many branches nationally. We need to work with the UN while holding it accountable.

A written report will be sent to participants in the retreat, and once their input is considered, a formal, written report will be available to the board as well as all members.

Maureen noted that we want WILPF to be inclusive, but micro-aggressions continue and we need to find a way to address this. No decision was made.

“Push back” on the idea of strategic planning was discussed. No decision was made.

Mary gave a special thank you to Marybeth for the work she did in speaking with most branches and compiling a detailed report.

Marybeth and Robin reported on the Growing WILPF! campaign. A new annual appeal, “Power Up,” was presented. Board members will be asked to make a donation, and board members were invited to help make calls for donations. Nicole and LaShawndra volunteered to assist with calls.

Barbara outlined the nominations process, with dates and details which were outlined in an email sent earlier in the day. Board members are asked to respond to the secretary with their votes as to the proposed schedule, as follows:

- January 10, 2016: DEADLINE for submitting nominations of members to be invited to apply for board positions
- January 24, 2016: DEADLINE for submitting applications of members applying for board positions
- January 24, 2016: DEADLINE for submitting recommendations of members applying for board positions
- Early February 2016: Ballots mailed
- March 5, 2016: DEADLINE, ballot postmark date
- March 13, 2016: Ballot final tally by counting branch
- March 14, 2016: Election results publicized
- March 15, 2016: Board meeting, new members seated

*NOTE: Following the board meeting this schedule was approved by email.*

Melissa and Millee had requested an email approval from the board for the budget item for \$23,540 for WILPF UN PRACTICUM + LOCAL TO GLOBAL WILPF 2016. Following are the votes received by email from board members as of the deadline of midnight, Nov. 7:

Millee Livingston	Yes
Melissa Torres	Yes
Mary Hanson Harrison	Yes
Maureen Ngozi Eke	Yes

Candace Perry	Yes
Nicole Scott	Yes
Marybeth Gardham	Yes
Odile Hugunot Haber	Yes
Ann Fleischli	Stand aside
Barbara Nielsen	Stand aside
LaShawndra Vernon	Not voting

With no blocks, the budget item was approved. Melissa asked if there were any remaining questions about the program. Candace asked the number of participants, and Melissa said it would depend on the number of applicants. Robin asked if all UN deadlines could be met, and Melissa assured that they could be.

LaShawndra asked if there were questions or comments from non-board members. There were none.

Candace asked if we could agree to the following dates for board meetings in 2016:

- January 19
- March 15
- May 17
- July 19
- September 20
- November 15

Board members were asked to respond to the secretary with their votes on the above proposed meeting schedule.

*NOTE: Following the board meeting this schedule was approved by email.*

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm (EST).

Respectfully submitted,  
Candace Perry, Secretary