

Minutes of the Meeting of WILPF US Board of Directors
Open Session
July 18, 2017
Held via teleconferencing

Board members present:

President: Mary Hanson Harrison
Secretary: Candace Perry
Treasurer/Chair of Finance: Jan Corderman
Chair of the Nominating Committee: Laura Dewey
Chair of the Membership Development Committee: Shilpa Pandey
Incoming At-large Board Member: Teresa Castillo
US Section Member of the International Board, Melissa Torres
At-large Board Member: Dixie Hairston
Chair of the Program Committee: Maureen Ngozi Eke

Board members not present:

Chair of the Development Committee: Marybeth Gardam

WILPF members, non-Board present: Ellen Schwartz, Robin Lloyd, Darien De Lu

Please note: All agreements shown in bold face.

The meeting began at 8:35 pm (Eastern). A quorum exists. Laura facilitated, recording began at 8:35 pm.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Minutes of May, 2017 accepted.** Secretary requested to follow up on absences, which was done. All those absent had valid reasons.

INTERNATIONAL REPORT: Melissa reported that Maria Munoz from the HR programme has left her position.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT was saved until the end of the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The travel reimbursement policy was discussed and **everyone supported the proposed changes** to the "Expense Reimbursement Policy," adopted by the Board in November, 2009. The Travel and Transportation section of the policy will now read:

Travel by air should be reserved 21 days or more in advance to secure the most economical rate. If a Board member prefers to travel at a more expensive rate, reimbursement will be only for the cost of the economy-class ticket.

Travel by Amtrak or similar rail service will be reimbursed for the actual expense up to the cost of an economy class ticket by air.

If a Board member needs WILPF US to make her travel reservation so it can be charged directly to the WILPF credit card, this request should be made at least 4 weeks before date of travel.

Car travel is reimbursed at the standard mileage rate per mile set by the Internal Revenue Service for miles driven in service for charitable organizations (14 cents per mile in 2017). The cost of tolls will also be reimbursed, documented with receipts.

When in cities, and when without a car, only public transportation (including airport shuttles) will be reimbursed. If taxis are used, only the equivalent for public transportation will be reimbursed, unless there is a question of disability/accessibility.

Jan went over the budget.

Mary requested discussion of the Sanjuines request letter. JAPA investment of the Sanjuines bequest was very disappointing, and we would like a full accounting of the earnings. Jan proposed that we ask Mary to sign the acceptance letter with a cover letter stating that we want a copy of the bequest and a full accounting of the last 5 years' investments. **All agreed.**

NOMINATING REPORT:

- Nominating report. Ad hoc committee for governance, overall first goal to try to improve culture of board. Asked for handbook meeting, done, and diversity training, scheduled for July 30.
- Leadership Institute 14 participants, good mix of newer members , longer term members. 2 board members, Jan and Teresa attending
- Elections: need to send e-alert about upcoming positions

PROGRAM REPORT: The final version of the Program Strategic Plan document will be forwarded to the IT person to the website at the end of August/early September. The document was meant to serve as a guide, a starting point, with ideas about program activities for Branches, Issue Committees, and individuals. Thanks to everyone who worked on this, including Maureen, Odile Hugonut-Haber, Laura Dewey, Barbara Nielsen, and Mary Jane Schutzius.

CONGRESS REPORT: Board members will make presentations on Sunday. We'll meet during Night Owl session on Sat. to go over presentations. There will be a special training for all board members on Sunday afternoon, led by Dr. Kesho Scott, Associate Professor of American Studies and Sociology, Grinnell College, dealing with issues of racism and oppression and WILPF.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Response to International regarding the letter of complaint sent to International in November, 2016. The letter is not representative of the Board as it was sent with signatures of individual board members. Our response needs to be clear that the letter expresses the opinions of individual board members, not all the board. A response is being drafted and those who wish to sign will be able to do so.

Next board meeting set for Tuesday, Sept. 19.

Steering meetings are scheduled for August 15, October 17, December 19. Laura requested we not hold the August meeting. **All agreed.**

The meeting adjourned at 10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Perry, Secretary