

WILPF US SECTION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, December 18, 2018 5:30 pm / 8:30 pm ET

PARTICIPANTS:

-President: Mary Hanson Harrison
-Secretary: Eileen Kurkoski
-Treasurer/Chair of Finance Committee: Jan Corderman
-Chair of the Nominating Committee: Laura Dewey
-Chair of the Membership Development Committee: Shilpa Pandey
-Chair of the Development Committee: Marybeth Gardam
-Chair of Program Committee: Barbara Nielsen
Start time: 8:34 PM EST End time: 10:55 EST Meeting was recorded.

Facilitator: Laura Dewey Note taker: Eileen

Dashboard facilitator: Ellen Schwartz

AGENDA:

Secretary: Eileen The June Steering minutes were accepted. Eileen shared the answers to the diversity question, “What does it mean to me when I think of how the concept of white privilege affects me?” Few members found any changes from the pre to the post test on diversity and one person acknowledged she learned from the monthly questions?

President: Mary asked us to see the president’s corner on the website . She expressed much respect to Laura, Dixie and Marybeth & thanked them for all their work over the past three years.

Treasurer: Jan went over the budget for 2019 after sharing the success of 2018 - We started with a deficit of \$102,684 but ended with a surplus of \$3,540.

Marybeth, Mary HH and Jan are now on the Finance Committee and Dixie has left. So far the grant committee has put in 4 requests.

The finance Committee was unable to agree on four items, with Jan against the proposals but Mary & Marybeth in support. Below are discussions with informal voting.

Expenses-

-Should money for our U.S. International Congressional delegates be taken out in 3 portions over 3 years or taken all out the year of the Congress? We have not budgeted 3 years in advance in the past but there is wisdom in doing so. Jan does not agree with this plan but 5 others agreed and Jan will go along.

-Should we have 1 or 2 Peace & Freedom magazines with e-news? Each mailing costs \$13,500 on average with postage and printing. This is a flagship publication, especially for those who don't spend much time on the computer. We could condense one issue to save money. It is a great selling item. We need to be sure the writers are members. We could use cheaper material. All present liked keeping 2 issues but we can look into a cheaper paper.

-How much do we want Michael Ippolito, national communications coordinator, to work? He does OneWILPF calls for free and 1) connects us to other organizations we don't usually hook into, sometimes to petitions 2) works with issue committees, especially helping to plan, 3) does trainings 4) is creating a new WILPF website with Glenn Ruga, IT and web communications specialist 5) helps Glenn see how his work can be expanded. He also helps members with social media. There is a big gap between 10K and 27K. Perhaps we have to go in the middle. This is a way to attract younger people. All on the call wanted to keep the 27K.

-WWINGS- how many branches do we want to develop, 1 or 5? We have funding of \$32K for the plan but it may be flexible. Another \$25K is firmly only for WWINGS. This program is not fast; it is set to plant seeds and let the organization grow. We need commitments from the branches to continue with our support. We didn't develop as many groups as we originally wanted because of financial issues. It's an excellent program. Other organizations have full-time organizers. We should support Robin's wishes since she donated money to support the project.

In general: We could go ahead with our present plans and if we don't get more money by June then we may have to tighten our belt. We have confidence in Mary's fund raising because she has proven herself. All of us are willing to recommend the \$98K budget to the board.

Development Chair: Marybeth submitted her 2019 draft budget for the WWINGS project for our review. She also described the solidarity WILPF sashes with a white background and blue lettering. The washable version was \$40 for one side and \$64 for two sided lettering. The bulk ribbon sashes are satin, considered single use, \$4.30 for one side and \$8.68 for two sided lettering. With care the second set would last longer and these were recommended.

We need a volunteer facilitator for next Steering Meeting

Next Steering Committee Meeting: February 19, 2019

Next Board Meeting: March 19, 2019