

WILPF US Board Meeting 5/21/19

Start time: 8:34PM EST End time: 11:04PM

Participants:

-President: Darien DeLu
-Secretary: Eileen Kurkoski
-Treasurer/Chair of Finance: Jan Corderman
-Chair of the Membership Development Committee: Shilpa Pandey
-At-large Board Member (& Chair of Earth Democracy issue committee) Nancy Price
-Past President: Mary Hanson Harrison
-Acting Chair of Development Committee: Marybeth Gardam
Guest: Ellen Schwartz, Website Committee member

Decisions made are **underlined and in bold font.**

Agenda:

1. Opening statement from President

Darien reminded us we are in unusual times. Important elections are coming up in several months. We will have to put our WILPF issues forward in this dire time.

2. Possible new WILPF US website report was presented by Ellen Schwartz, who explained the number of limitations of our website, which needs many updates. Some would be costly, making the proposal of a new website more attractive than investing in an imperfect update. Michael Ippolito, who manages our One WILPF calls and does other technical work, has developed a prototype of a new Wordpress-based website for us, at his own expense. A report from him identified many new features viewers would appreciate. To implement a new website would cost more than updating but may be worth it. The ad hoc Website Committee, consisting of Darien, Jan Corderman, Joan Goddard, Nancy Price, Ellen Schwartz, and Ellen Thomas, has been researching the ways to improve the current website and features we would want in a new one that aren't possible on the current one.

The Board voted to initiate work on a new website this year. The start up cost for 2019 would be about \$1500 Mary, Eileen, Nancy, Darien said yes; Jan and Shilpa, no. (Marybeth is not a Board member, so she has no vote.)

3. WILPF US social media approach and new ad hoc Social Media Committee.

Darien firmly believes we need to have a strong social media committee and asked for those who wanted to be on this committee. The board is to continue the discussion by email.

4. Possible budget amendments — Because we are not getting expected revenue to meet our budget Jan offered proposals to cut expenses. We referred to the Finance committee report figures and notes for her proposals.

1. Reduce Communication Coordinator position to 30/month; \$17,100 reduction in expenses. More info and discussion needed. Motion failed for lack of a second.
2. Eliminate the second 2019 Peace & Freedom magazine; \$13,100 reduction in expenses. We have ample copies of the first edition for new member packets, membership development & WWINGS projects, and to fill other requests. A decision is to be made at the July board meeting.

3. **Eliminate the in-person board meeting for 2019; \$7,000 reduction in expenses. Motion made, seconded and carried unanimously.**
4. Do not set aside 1/3 of fees required for International Congress 2021; \$7,000 reduction in expenses. Motion failed for lack of a second.
5. Proposal – Reduce the WWINGS expenses for five branches from \$18,730 to \$8,000 for 2019. (\$1,500 each plus \$500 Misc expenses): a \$10,730 Reduction in expenses. Darien made an amendment to set the amount at \$10,000 (from \$8,000). Jan accepted the proposed alternative amendment. **Amended proposal: Reduce the WWINGS expenses for five branches from \$18,730 to \$10,000 for 2019.**
Vote: All voted yes for cuts.

5. Reports from each of the ad hoc board committees:

- Sign-ons/MOUs/Collaboration- Marybeth G. said they are close to a proposal on how to approach and deal with these.
- eNews- Nancy proposed that there be two editions of eNews in September, with a data analysis afterwards on readers' response. **All voted yes for this change.**
- U.S. Congress- Eileen K. explained there are 2 branches interested in hosting the Congress, but both have issues.
- UN Programs Committee (Practicum & L2G) got more attention. Eileen Kurkoski and Jan Corderman reported they had one fruitful meeting. In their written report, they started a list of items to be further explored and some expectations they had of the faculty, students and L2G attendees. Discussion with other board members led to helpful suggestions and guidelines.
- >We need objective guides for faculty.
- >Prior to practicum arrange for students to be hooked up with a branch.
- >Retain all applications. Have a list of all our expectations.
 - >We want a hotel that can accommodate more people in a room. This will cost more.
 - >Local 2 Global attendees could help mentor students.

The committee needs more time to complete its work. Grant writer, Marguerite Adelman, thinks she can get money for the UN program.

6. Holistic Committee (on Program) regarding coming changes for Program & Issue Committees. Darien explained there is a need for new expectations of issue committees: some suggestions coming from the Holistic committee include:

- have strategic plans for 2, 3, 5 yrs.
 - committees must at least two or three meetings per year, with minutes saved.
 - have election meeting for leaders.
- Mary thinks there is a need to be accountable; Leaders can be stripped of their authority and \$400/y if expectations are not met.
- We have four committees working well. Reports need to be done, perhaps monthly to every 6 months and the issue committee's webpage content on the website must be kept up.

7. Collaboration matters:

- Climate Change Lawsuit Amicus Brief — Earth Democracy Chair, Nancy Price, asked the board to consider signing onto this brief which asserts that, through the government's actions that lead to climate change, it has violated the Constitutional rights of younger generations to life, liberty, and property, as well as failed to protect

essential public trust resources. For more information see:

<https://www.ourchildrenstrust.org/juliana-v-us>. **All agreed to signing on to this!**

- Women Cross DMZ — Darien has offered some proposals for collaborative work to this organization, including a possible media training by webinar. The Board supported these collaboration initiatives with this group, which is planning to clarify its name to something like Women for Peace in Korea.

8. Minutes of 3/19/19 meeting: Accepted. Nancy Price will read and get back with Eileen if she finds something to be changed

9. Next Board Meeting: July 30, 8:30PM EST. A facilitator is needed.