

## **WILPF Board Meeting, September 24, 2019**

Start time: 8:38 pm ET End time: 10:35 ET

### **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 Program: Nancy Price
- Past President: Mary Hanson Harrison
- Acting Chair of Development Committee: Marybeth Gardam
- Acting Chair of Nominating Committee: Laura Dewey

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

### **Agenda:**

#### **1. Board candidate applications and extending the deadline:**

Laura Dewey reported she has received three applications for the board by the deadline. The three include: Jan Corderman for Treasurer/Chair of Finance, Shilpa Pandey for Membership Development Chair and Joan Goddard for the Program Chair position with one year remaining in the term. **The Board voted 5:1 to extend the application date to October 6,** so other prospects might apply after further contacts with them. Laura offered to help Jan recruit potential leaders.

#### **2. Finances and online fundraising:**

At this point the budget deficit has been significantly reduced to \$47,000 with further plans to contain expenditures in the next quarter. The board was very pleased to obtain a \$12,000 grant from Patagonia.

Chris Wilbeck, WILPF administrator, will be setting up a means for on line fundraising campaigns, including for Giving Tuesday. Nancy Price and Marybeth Gardam are strategizing ways to bring in more money for the California tour about toxic contamination around military bases (discussed more below), since the grant we received from Patagonia for the tour covers only two-thirds of the expected costs.

#### **3. Membership Development Committee:**

Chair, Shilpa Pandey, reported, that, as of 9/6/19, 1,390 members qualify to get ballots. Branches in DC, NY-City, and Texas are no longer active. The Seattle branch might re-establish itself. Work continues to establish a virtual branch for at-large members, the "Jane Addams branch"

The committee has some good ideas to recruit new members but does not have a concrete plan, yet. Trainings for branch leaders to help with recruiting have not progressed. Two recruiting opportunities are coming up in California. One is a cluster meeting mid November; another is the tour with Pat Elder, about

toxic contamination around military bases. Other branches are having events to attract new members.

#### **4. Issue Committees and ad hoc committees:**

Guidelines are being proposed for all issue committees to help standardize expectations and accountability. Several of the Issue committees have responded with greater activism.

- Earth Democracy Issue Committee: Nancy Price reported plans underway for Pat Elder's tour of California, talking of military base contamination. Also, a Public Banking bill in California has been signed by the governor, making it legal for local public banks to bank and invest monies of cities and counties. They can now divest from fossil fuels and fund climate change mitigation projects. WILPF and many organizations worked on and supported this legislation.

- Corporations v Democracy Issue Committee: Marybeth Gardam chairs this committee, which is finalizing a framing statement for sign ons. They want an audiobook of anthology of readings they select, and they are developing a feminist tool kit.

- Disarm Issue Committee: They are updating their literature. Ellen Thomas has rented 2-3 rooms in Code Pink's Washington, DC office/house to put up members to lobby for the Norton bill, calling for the US to disable and dismantle its nuclear weapons by 2020.

- Cuba and Bolivarian Alliance Issue Committee.: In the face of tightened sanctions on Cuba and aggressive US moves against Venezuela, this committee is renewing itself to continue its national WILPF work.

The Board addressed the work of two ad hoc committees.

- Social media: Discussion concerned what we want posted and how much help we want from our communications contractor, Michael Ippolito. Darien De Lu continues to look for branch social media activists and other WILPF members to volunteer to help on the Social Media Committee.

- Program 2.0: The Holistic Committee has completed Program 2.0, a proposed plan to unify WILPF US work on different issues. The Board approved sending out a survey to members requesting them to review the proposal and comment on it, including offering suggestions and questions.

**5. July Board Meeting minutes** were approved and posted to the website.

**6. WILPF US regional conferences in 2020:** The Board discussed the possibility of encouraging regional conferences in 2020, since the national Congress has been postponed to 2021. However, because of the lack of capacity and probable added expense, this idea was dropped.

**7. Update on CSW Programs:** To bring in different perspectives and skills, the search committee recommended having three well qualified faculty/coordinators for the 2020

Practicum and Local 2 Global programs. The program will be partially subsidized by a generous donor and a grant committee will work to obtain additional funds. The Board approved all of these plans.

**8. Upcoming Meetings:**

Steering Committee Meeting - October 29

Board Meeting - November 26

There will be no meeting in December unless there is an emergency.