

## WILPF Board Meeting MINUTES, May 27, 2023 (via Zoom)

### Participants:

#### Board Members:

Darien De Lu: President  
Barbara Nielsen: Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair  
Jennifer Bailey: Program Committee Chair  
George Friday: Program Committee Chair  
Philip Cole: At-large Board Member  
Dianne Blais: Secretary, Jane Addams (JA) Virtual Branch Convener

#### International Members (Pool of Pundits)

Jane (Cricket) Doyle: US Liaison to the Americas Region Representative  
Dee Murphy: WILPF International Advisory Board Rep. and  
Domestic Prisoners of War (DPoW) Issue Committee Chair

#### GUESTS:

Joan Goddard  
Rita Gonzalez (left early)  
Shilpa Pandey (left after her presentation)

Dee volunteered to be a vibes watcher and George the timer.

Darien read subject lines of the 5 announcements:

WILPF US signs on to New York Times ad for peace,  
Welcome to our new Development Chair!,  
WILPF "Name Dropped" in Ms.  
WILPF US Ukraine Statement for the WILPF Advisory Board  
Marguerite Adelman's (Burlington, Vt. Branch) article chosen for a Google Alert

### **Old Business**

#### **1. Check-in**

**2. Dianne summarized actions and decisions** from the March 25 Board mtg and Darien of the March 26 Board meeting

**3. Minutes** from March 25 Board mtg were approved (March 26 minutes had been lost and have to be redone)

**4. Updates & Q&A from each reporting (more than 2 days before meeting) Board Ctte. Chair** – George had heard from all of “her” issue committees and subcommittees except Advancing Human Right’s UN Women. Cee Cee Anderson will co-convene the AHR EMI/DP subcommittee. (George is working with AHR, Domestic Prisoners of War, and Disarm. Jennifer Bailey, the second Program Chair, has the others.)

George wrote an article about Juneteenth and hopes that arouses interest in the AHR UN Decade for Persons of African Descent subcommittee.

Barbara suggested discussion of the Penn. Charitable registration issues. Darien said this will be covered in the Executive Session.

5. 1) Proposal for WILPF US's 2023 Gathering to be on Wed., Aug. 16, and Thurs., Aug. 17 at 8:00 ET was approved unanimously.

2) a) WILPF 2024 US Congress: Dee proposed the theme, "Water on the Frontlines for Peace", and the suggested dates (May 30-June 2, 2024). Both were unanimously approved.

b) Re: Congress Coordinator

1) The proposal to Amend the 2023 budget to begin the twelve-month Coordinator position as of Aug. 1 (i.e., two months earlier, so \$2,000 more in '23: changing \$3,000 to \$5,000) passed with Jennifer abstaining and all others in approval.

2) Cricket and Phillip volunteered to be on **a hiring committee** for the position.

c) Proposed Congress Program Committee Chair – Names will be raised in the Exec. Session. Barbara volunteered to be on the committee.

**6. Nominating Ctte.** George: is working with Jan; Chantaye McLaughlin is interested in being Membership Development chair. Darien said Virginia Pratt (Boston Branch) is interested in being on the Nom. Committee.

### **7. Board Book and Updated Statements of Commitments, for Board candidates and Board members.**

Dianne and Barbara thought the Candidates' Commitments Statement should be in the board book and thus would make the Board Commitments page superfluous. Darien and Dianne will work on determining the optimal arrangement of the statements. After much discussion about "making additional monetary contributions", the language was voted on and approved as presented with 2 Abstains (Jennifer, Phillip), 3 Ayes (Dianne, George, Darien), and 1 Nay (Barbara) so no change was mandated.

### **8. Appointment: Membership Development– to be voted on in exec. session**

Darien is appointing Shilpa Pandey, our *former* Membership Development Ctte. Chair, on an *acting basis*, as the Interim Membership Development Ctte. Chair.

Darien will add Shilpa, as the Acting Membership Development Ctte. Chair, to the Pool of Pundits, so that the Board has the benefit of her experience and perspectives – as with other Pool of Pundits members.

### **9. WILPF US Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) Programs –**

1) Shilpa Pandey talked about her written report, accountability, and how to make the program more effective. She believes an ad hoc committee overseeing three stages (before, during and after CSW) is needed.

2) CSW funding and finance update – in discussion, there was general agreement that the ad hoc committee (Barbara, Shilpa and Dianne volunteered) on the CSW Programs should be appointed and should discuss program expenses, among other topics.

The Board unanimously agreed on an advisory recommendation for the committee's mandate. For board consideration in July, the ctte. should develop and prepare additional recommendations and proposals for the CSW programs, including the following questions:

- Should WILPF continue the programs for '23-'24? and,

***If yes***

- What are WILPF US's goals for the programs?

- Should we expand eligibility for the Practicum to non-students?

- How many Practicum participants? and L2G participants?

#### **10. In-Person Board Mtg. Help needed!**

The Des Moines Branch is assisting by hosting us, Thurs., October 12 to Sunday, the 15<sup>th</sup>. George volunteered for a ctte. to assist with planning.

#### **New Business**

#### **11. P&F Theme & eNews Editor**

a. Brainstorming next *P&F* theme: water, DEI, militarism, agape love, uplifting peace in a world of rage, were suggested.

b. The editor might not be able to continue to do the eNews in the fall. Possible suggestions of an eNews editor appreciated.

**12. No to NATO Proposals:** George has attended 4 planning meetings. She had e-mailed to us a "Global Women for Peace United Against NATO" Common Statement about discussions to be held July 6 and 7 in Brussels.

George talked about an upcoming US-Canada webinar, hopefully on July 8, co-moderated by Ann Wright.

The Board approved both the Statement and the webinar with Darien abstaining and all others in support.

**13. Summer Activity:** Darien **proposed** a budget amendment: 80 hours of work at \$3,200 for the WILPF Communications Coordinator to do phoning/outreach to branches and at-large members to activate, inspire, connect, and coordinate activist work. It failed: 1 abstention (George), 2 Ayes (Darien and Dianne) and 3 Nays (Barbara, Phillip, and Jennifer).

**14. DELAYED until another day:** Possible Bylaws changes to the Steering Ctte. to formalize a *non-voting* new body, based on the "Pool of Pundits" – *tentatively* called the Extended Advisors Pool which would include "acting" and "interim" standing board committee chairs as well as WILPF US's three new International WILPF positions (the

US Liaison, the Int'l Advisory Bd. Member, and the IAB Alternate and also formalize those positions in the Bylaws removing the no-longer-existing "International Board Member" (from the U.S.).

**15. Comments from WILPF member guests** –Joan said she was extremely disappointed that the proposal to fund Michael (item 13.) was not passed, and she wished Phillip well in his efforts contacting members about the Gathering and other items that Michael would have addressed.

***End of Agenda Items - Public meeting adjourns***

***Break***

***Executive session***

Barbara proposed that the Pundits who are not board members, *not* be allowed to attend the session. After discussion, the proposal did not pass after a 3-3 tie vote (ayes – (Jennifer, George, Barbara); nays – (Dianne, George, Darien), so Darien allowed them to attend.

Shilpa was unanimously approved as interim MD chair.

The Board discussed the details of the situation of Pennsylvania finding that WILPF US had failed to file the required registration documents, as a charitable organization in that state.

Additionally, the Board reviewed the expectation and requirement of **communications** by Board members, as well as fulfillment of standard member duties.