



Draft Minutes of the GWI Board 2023-25 Meeting held on 22nd May 2023, 6pm Central Summer European Time (CEST), Zoom

Sixth Board Meeting

Attendees: President Patrice Wellesley Cole (PWC); VP Education, Shirley Gillett(SG);VP Fundraising, Nneka Chiedozie-Udeh (NCU); VP Legal & Governance, Ujwala Shinde(US); VP Membership, Meera Bondre (MB); VP Projects, Mildred Asmah(MA); Treasurer, Sudha Srivastava (Sudha),GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara (SDL)

Absent: VP Advocacy Shaila Rao Mistry (SRM),VP Marketing, Shruti Sonthalia(SS).

Meeting called to order at **6pm CET**.

1. Welcome: PWC welcomed all to the Sixth Board Meeting
2. Conflict of Interest: NONE
3. Adoption of Agenda: Sudha moved agenda and seconded by MA.
4. Adoption of Minutes of 26 April 2023 GWI Board meeting: SG moved the proposal and MB seconded it. Adopted.
5. Treasurer's report - Sudha informed about NFA Dues that she has sent reminders and established one-to-one, formal/informal communication with other members she knows to remind their NFA leadership about the Dues payment.
6. 500 plus Challenge – All VPs
Background was explained by PWC that as per SDL if members and non-members would donate 20 dollars/Euros/pounds per month regularly that would make a huge difference to GWI's finance. The 500+Challenge is for 500 members and/or non-members. Number of donating people can be 100, 300 or 500 or other. She further informed that U.S.A. has a tax deduction policy. In Canada there is a reciprocity agreement for tax deductions, but guidelines are strict; SG also mentioned that plus challenge concept is good, it should be clear if it is for general administration or for projects. NUC mentioned that GWI needs money for both general administration and projects. It should be defined how much we need for each. Sudha showed her inclination for 300 plus challenge. She also mentioned that purpose of fundraising should be clear so that can be focussed, and 23000 Swiss francs is budgeted for SDG related grants needs to be retained by VP fund raising and needs to action. MA also supported the 300 plus challenge. She said that, we have to look at donations allocation and loss should go to the projects. SG said that the 300 plus number seems realistic. SDL mentioned that 300 means, less than 4% of the members could come in and donate 20 dollars per month. She further mentioned that appeal of



donation can be spread through social media. Tweets can also be created and shared asking donations from members and non-members. Every month 5 tweets can be shared on social media for fund raising. NCU mentioned that it should be 500 plus, because 20 dollars can be the big amount for some members according to their currency value, so it should be 500 plus and with contribution of any of the amount. Sudha asked that, if there is any marketing plan, we can pull up some things and we can focus for something for one month so that we can have some tangible results on that. Social media is the tool which should be utilised fully. SDL mentioned that a logo needs to be created for the 500+Challenge to that an image is associated with the program, used on the Board email signatures, etc. and the Fundraising Friday social media posts. She further cited the example of GlobalGiving crowdfunding source, they handle the tax deductions, and a fee is directly given to the website which is about 3%. In 500+Challenge the Girls Education for Brighter Futures program can be incorporated as a one of the features. Fundraising Friday tweets/ social media post, which people can easily copy and paste and can be circulated amongst friends outside the GWI, easily asking donations. Last year GWI received a random donation of \$5000 dollars from the digital technology company. GlobalGiving also has the Gift Cards, people can give it as a gift, and we got Mother's Day donations of 50 dollars. Sudha asked, 'can somebody donate larger amount to GlobalGiving and the name of the person can be reflected or credited' SDL cleared that, it cannot be done. But it can be published on the website or social media or in the newsletters.

7. Update Summary

a) Fundraising letters for projects – Google doc – Nneka

NUC informed that a letter is called for proposal. 6 projects are itemised and NFAs can choose as per their own requirement, climate and financial budget. Board can decide the budget for each project. Or NFAs can come with project and budget that can be reviewed by the board. NUC agreed to send it on email to all the board members. SDL suggested that before letters there should a webinar regarding the projects so that participants/NFAs can ask their queries. And in the letter the date of the webinar should be declared, and it should be with more details. SG

b) Projects – STEM, Global Citizen Educator, Zimbabwe – Mildred informed that it is possible to sign MoU/ Memorandum of Engagement with them. Other option is getting ideas of their school, their lifestyle their community and also asks them to employ and make them active. Sudha informed that the Zimbabwe NFA has not paid their dues this year. SDL informed that they were active some time ago but now they are dropped off. NUC informed that they handed over to Zimbabwe as a head of FUWA of the African region and they should be contacted for their updates. SG suggested that EDUCOM have possible projects on education or young girls marrying - that is early marriages.



c) Strategic Work Plan and Advocacy – Shaila

PWC suggested that 'as VP Advocacy Shaila Rao Mistry (SRM) is absent, this point will be discussed in the next meeting.'

8. Policy Paper for UN on Hate Speech – Stacy and Shirley

SDL noted that she had previously distributed the Policy Paper on Hate Speech to PWC, SRM and SG. After their review, she will proceed with sending the final draft to Matthew, SG's son and Hate Speech Expert, for his review. She will add graphic elements informed that policy paper needs some graphic design, which she would do. Then the final Policy Paper can be sent to UN Under Secretary Genocide for endorsement as she mentioned in March that her office would support.

9. AOB to include office matters, CFUW and WG-USA project

SDL informed that a few years ago there was a fundraising committee, NFAs were thinking that there is fundraising for their own NFAs, however, the committee was formed to raise funds for GWI. SDL also informed about a GWI member who has left a legacy donation to GWI in the amount of about \$50,000. SDL also informed that to get transferred the donation from USA to Switzerland needs some formality, which she would be doing.

SDL further informed about the there was a call from High Commissioner for Human Rights for submitting the inputs on a report that will be presented to the United Nations General Assembly in September. The call was for information about statelessness as a nexus for violence against women. SDL reached out to the NFAs of Thailand, India, Bangladesh, to participate in this call. This is an opportunity for them to work with the office and UN, however no response is received. SDL made the submission on behalf of GWI. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has acknowledged receiving the input. Additionally, SDL reported she had been attending many committee meetings. She informed that the 34th triennial General Assembly minutes check was currently taking place until 24 May and that the quorum of 19 has already been fulfilled. This far 16 members and three board members, that is 19 voters. The adopted minutes are necessary to maintain the GWI legal personality in Switzerland and also to substantiate the current board.

Sudha mentioned about the Young Members Network, that she met with the GWI supporting club in Canada to talk about GWI YMN. She further mentioned that we must make every effort to engage CFUW and its young members. She proposed a formal consultation with GWI YMN to find out specific info, interests, and possible activities with young members, further to her proposal of establishing the YMN Committee. Young



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members should be included in all efforts - webinar, project, fundraising etc. as a part of GWI membership.

Next Board Meeting is fixed on 22nd of June 2023 Thursday at 6pm CET.

Wrap Up: PWC thanked all the Board members.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday 22nd June 2023. 6pm CET

Meeting adjourned: 7.42.56pm CET

Minutes drafted and e-signed by US