

**WIKI SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, DC INC.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

June 8, 2014

Wikimedia District of Columbia, 1730 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC

Board Members Present:           James Hare [President]  
  Kristin Anderson [Vice President]  
  Kirill Lokshin [Secretary]  
  Peter Meyer [Treasurer]  
  John Gallagher

Board Members Not Present:       Nicholas Bashour  
  Emily Temple-Wood

Guests:                             Jim Hayes  
  Leo Zimmermann

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Hare at 2:24 PM.

1. A motion by Mr. Meyer to approve the Minutes of the May 3 meeting of the Board of Directors in the form previously distributed was seconded and passed without dissent.
2. Mr. Hare submitted a written report, which was entered into the Minutes:

I am pleased to announce that we have hired Leo Zimmermann to run the Wikipedia Summer of Monuments program. He joined on June 1 and will be working on the project until October 31. We can look forward to an exciting summer of outreach!

WikiConference USA took place on May 30 – June 1. It went very well, with 250 attendees from across the United States. I would like to acknowledge Wikimedia NYC for their hard work in preparing for the conference. On behalf of Wikimedia DC, I was responsible for awarding scholarships to qualified individuals at the advice of the scholarship chair. We awarded 25 scholarships and we are currently in the process of receiving all of the expense documentation. Once that is done, a final report will be submitted to the conference's finance chair and we will refund any excess funds to Wikimedia NYC.

We held the Wikipedia APA edit-a-thon on May 10, a WikiSalon on May 15, a dinner meetup on May 17, and the Federal Register edit-a-thon on May 23. Coming up we have a WikiSalon on June 11, the Frederick County History edit-a-thon on June 14, a dinner

meetup on June 21, the Wikipedia in Your Library edit-a-thon on June 24, and the Phillips Collection edit-a-thon on June 29. I have also tentatively scheduled our fourth annual Wiknic for July 13. On Labor Day Weekend I would like to bring Emily Temple-Wood to DC to conduct a workshop training, consistent with her research in creating social spaces for teaching students how to edit Wikipedia. We are working on a grant proposal for that.

I approved and submitted a final version of the comment to the U.S. Copyright Office regarding orphan works and mass digitization on May 20. I have certified that it is consistent with the version reviewed by the Board of Directors.

We are providing support for the upstart New England Wikimedians. We have agreed to purchase domain names for them and to host their website, at minimal cost to us. We will also be sending Emily to Boston in July to run a version of the training that she will be giving in DC later this year.

After a process of collecting feedback from Wikimedia DC's highly active volunteers, we are ready to continue with our strategic planning process. We have a written down sense of what we do as an organization, how much work we have put into it, and what still needs to be done. Our strategic priorities represent how we would like to see ourselves as an organization active in the Wikimedia movement and as an organization active in Washington, DC. My challenge for everyone is, based on what we're already capable of, how can we translate these priorities into actionable items? On that note, in what areas do we need to build up our capabilities? My current goal is to spend the next two months developing this strategic plan with the input of others in the organization. Adopting a strategic plan in August puts us in a good position to put out an annual plan and budget by September.

3. Mr. Lokshin submitted a written report, which was entered into the Minutes:

As of June 8, Wikimedia DC has 68 members, which represents a decrease of 2 members from last month. This decrease is due to non-renewals by members who have not opted for automatic renewal.

A total of 3 memberships are due to expire at the end of June; this includes 1 automatically renewing member, as well as 2 additional members who have been individually solicited to renew.

The final application package for our new 501(c)(3) exemption filing has been prepared, and will be sent to the IRS shortly. A digital copy of the complete package will be distributed to the Board once it has been submitted.

4. Mr. Meyer submitted a written report, which was entered into the Minutes:

WikiConference USA went beautifully. Many costs have been paid and I have not got them all organized and classified yet. Reimbursement requests are coming in. James approves them then I pay them. Overall things look good relative to the budget and good order so far as I can see. Please alert me if anyone reports problems with reimbursement.

At the WikiConference USA I talked with contacts relevant to our financial situation. Peter Hess is the NYC chapter treasurer. They have accepted donations in Bitcoins, and this has a source of joy and excitement in the life of Mr. Hess, as the Bitcoins rose in value. (We did not discuss how one would feel if they crashed.) He moved almost all the value to a regular bank. He can check the price of Bitcoins in an app on his phone which is fun. I met Kevin Rutherford of the New England Wikimedians and their prospective treasurer Benjamin Lees. He's a good sport about it. Fortunately they have no money so it is not complicated, yet. I talked with Alex Wang of the WMF who is a key approver of our grant requests. All good.

The WMF approved our big Summer of Monuments grant request. We are pleased to employ Leo Zimmermann to manage the photo contest.

Our chapter also GIVES grants. We approved a grant for a New England photo exhibition and another grant request is under consideration.

As of today's board meeting, Wikimedia DC has \$20040.38 in liquid assets plus small amounts in equipment assets and prepaid expenses. Temporarily this looks like a lot but most of it is committed already to the Summer of Monuments and WikiConference USA.

5. Mr. Lokshin submitted a written report on behalf of the Audit Committee, which was entered into the Minutes:

On May 18, the Audit Committee received a report from James Hare regarding a potential discrepancy in the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2011-12. Upon further investigation, we determined that the amount for rent expenses had been incorrectly listed as \$2,982.00 instead of \$2,275.00; this discrepancy was most likely a result of a copying error during the formatting of the report. We have confirmed that no other amounts in the report were affected by the discrepancy, and have corrected it in the published version of the report.

6. Mr. Meyer submitted a written report on behalf of the Public Policy Committee, which was entered into the Minutes:

At WikiConference USA, our Jim Hayes made a presentation about the congressional

briefings we had in May, when we met with staffers from four congressional offices. The presentation went well. As often happens, someone asked how much we are allowed to lobby or advocate. We have good answers: we are cautious, and we know what the rules are and we follow them, and YES we can advocate for positions but not candidates. John Sadowski and I were also at the conference and met with people relevant to public policy questions. Among them was a speaker at a session, Patrick Higgins of the Electronic Freedom Foundation, who has the job title Activist. Our previously published position on Orphan Works has wide support from the people I talked to.

The PPC was asked about Wikimedia DC joining the Congressional Data Coalition. We overwhelmingly support it.

The PPC is processing the notes of our meetings with congressional staffers. We are not yet sustaining contact with them generally after the meetings although this will be a good practice to follow in the future.

7. The proposed Fundraising Plan for Fiscal Year 2013–14 was discussed and amended. A motion by Mr. Meyer to approve the plan as amended was seconded and passed without dissent, and the plan was entered into the Minutes.

[document attached]

8. A proposed resolution regarding the hiring of a Project Manager for the Wikipedia Summer of Monuments campaign was discussed. A motion by Mr. Lokshin to adopt the resolution as written was seconded and passed without dissent, and the resolution was entered into the Minutes:

Resolution No. 4.B6.7 regarding the Project Manager for Wikipedia Summer of Monuments, as subsequently amended, is amended by striking "\$4,500" in Paragraph 3 and inserting "\$4,000" in its place.

9. A proposed resolution regarding the 2014 election of the Board of Directors was discussed. A motion by Mr. Hare to adopt the resolution as written was seconded and passed without dissent, and the resolution was entered into the Minutes:

1. The 2014 election of the Board of Directors (the "Election") shall take place from September 2, 2014 to September 30, 2014.

2. The Election shall be conducted in accordance with the Election Policy.

3. Nominations for the Election shall be accepted from August 18, 2014 to September 1, 2014.

4. Kirill Lokshin shall serve as the Chair of the Election Committee for the duration of the Election.

10. The draft Activity Report for the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2013–14 was discussed and amended. A motion by Mr. Meyer to approve the report as amended was seconded and passed without dissent, and the report was entered into the Minutes.

[document attached]

11. A motion by Mr. Hare to authorize the President to apply for membership in the Congressional Data Coalition on behalf of the Corporation was seconded and passed without dissent, with Ms. Anderson abstaining.
12. The 2015 Wikimedia Conference was discussed.
13. The Wikipedia Summer of Monuments program was discussed.
14. Plans for future events were discussed.
15. The strategic planning process was discussed.

*\* Mr. Hayes joined the meeting at 4:26 PM \**

16. The date of the next meeting of the Board of Directors was set to July 26, 2014, at 2:00 PM, at the Corporation's offices at 1730 Connecticut Avenue NW.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 PM.

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

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Kirill Lokshin  
Secretary

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James Hare  
President