



Women's Sport International

Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes

March 31 – April 2

Tampa, FL USA

Present: Johanna Adriaanse, Barbara Drinkwater, Lydia la Riviere-Zijdel {Wednesday} Kari Fasting, Carole Oglesby, Carol Rodgers, Chris Shelton

Regrets: Stilani Chroni, Mary Jane DeSouza, Laura Gajardo, Takako Iida, Janet Kabeberi-Macharia, Sock Miang Teo-Koh, Gertrud Pfister, Anita White

1. Welcome and Introductions

President Fasting welcomed everyone in attendance and provided an overview of the meeting schedule and agenda. A special welcome was extended to Barbara Drinkwater [Vice President], Johanna Adriaanse [Member-at Large] and Lydia la Riviere-Zijdel [Wednesday] who have been able to join us.

2. Approval of the Agenda

CARRIED

The agenda was approved with the addition of two items under item # 8 .

Add: Global Women's Movement – IC conference

Other projects – goal to have proposal topic identified

3. Approval of Minutes – Trikala, Greece – May 7-8, 2008

CARRIED

The minutes were approved with one minor correction.

4. Business Arising

Members provided updates on action items from previous meeting.

With respect to Action Item #1 - this section of the website has now been re-organized into regional and national categories. Members provided an update of progress on acquiring information for this section of the website and will continue to work to add information as it becomes available.

Items 2 and 3 - *Web: new item posting notification and donation options* – completed

Item 4 - *Merchandise* - this item was further discussed at the meeting. The benefits of merchandise availability as a means of enhancing visibility of the organization was emphasized. It was agreed that if this was possible in a cost efficient manner, and could be possible through a company to ensure it was not labour intensive for the board members that it would be worth pursuing. Three items [bags, caps and t-shirts] were agreed upon. **BD to follow-up**

Item 5 - SC to follow-up re Greek translation, KF and CS to check on possible persons to assist with Chinese [no longer relevant since conferences were not attended]

Item 6 - *CS to make a draft with WSI highlights and send it to BO* (partly completed).

Item 12 - *Cambodian Project*, CO to follow-up re. logo.

Item 13 - *Translation of Abstract of the Chile study of Physical Activity in Women and Chile* – posted on the web),

Item 14 - *Reports to ICSSPE and IWG meetings* – completed

Item 15 - *Updates/edits to membership brochure* – completed

Item 16 - *Notice for website of different membership options* - completed

Item 18 - *Revised constitution and bylaws is posted on the website*),

Item 20 - *Election update is posted on website*

Item 21 - *Letters of thanks to outgoing Advisory Board members, and letters of welcome for new members.* – completed

Items 7, 8 -11, 17, 19 – updates as part of current meeting

5. Reports

- Website – BD

Members discussed the organization, content and accessibility features of the website and reviewed the report on “hits; keywords and links” provided by *Dodge Ink*. There was concern that it may be getting too crowded and that there might be a better way to organize content [e.g. place membership information as a sidebar; have only 4 lines of actual story – with link to rest of story elsewhere so stories remain visible longer] and archive material in a timely manner. Sections of the website are also in need of updating [e.g. photos/bios of new advisory board members]. Ensuring that the “research and advocacy” work of WSI is at the forefront and the work of the task forces was highlighted was emphasized. It was also agreed that all advisory board/executive members are responsible to ensure that there are updated research items for the website. CR indicated that as follow-up to the query that had been posed to Susan Dodge/Ross Bales regarding the possibility of email alerts to all members when new content had been added they had suggested that using a listserv selectively to highlight items of relevance [vs. mass

regular distribution] might be more effective. KF indicated that there was still enough funds remaining to continue to support the website.

ACTION:

BD and JA agreed to work together and do some “clearing” and possible re-organization of the website.

ACTION:

CS indicated that she would have her class do an assignment to evaluate the WSI website – particularly with respect to accessing information, content etc. The question of whether we need to consider other communication tools or forms of technology will also be explored.

ACTION:

CR/KF will write to absent Board members to ensure awareness of need for assistance with research content. CR will also send periodic reminder emails.

ACTION:

CR to email advisory board members with request to send an updated Photo and Bio to BD.

ACTION:

KF to draft thank you note to SD and RB for all the work they have done in assisting with the website.

- National bodies/ Advocacy-Contacts- Programs – All

No new information other than what has been posted on website. All board members are asked to add new information if they knew about national women and sport bodies which are not on the WSI website.

- Treasurer – BD (see attachment 1)

BD provided an overview of 2008 fiscal year revenues and expenditures. Primary expenditure is fee for credit card processing related to membership fees. Membership fees were the only source of revenue. Net positive balance was accrued.

KF thanked BD for her work and the report.

- Membership Committee – JA
 - Membership Update

Members discussed options for recruitment of new members. It was agreed that the best evidence of our “membership fees in action” was the support that was distributed to Cambodia for wheelchairs. Need to continue to support these types of endeavors both for the visibility of the organization as well as evidence of our commitment to membership fee support of international causes to support sport for women and girls.

Congratulations to Carole Oglesby who became WSI’s first lifetime member.

- New member brochures

The new membership brochure has been completed and is posted on the web. The new membership options [4 year; Life] and the new advisory board members are the primary changes that have been made.

KF congratulated and thanked JA for all her work in this area.

- Translations

Discussion focused on whether the new brochure should be translated into both Spanish and French and whether print copies should be distributed. It was agreed that translations were needed but that it may be most cost-efficient [at this point] to just post these on the website and make them available for download.

- Update on E-mail addresses of members CR

Some addresses are still incorrect and missing.

ACTION:

CR to circulate current list to members to “fill in the blanks”

ACTION:

CR to send paragraph about organization and membership to JA who will provide content to member website section of IWG.

It was agreed that organization information was something that could go also go too FAQ/ or Q and A section of our own website to assist persons reviewing the website learn quickly about the organization, its unique advocacy and research mandate and the benefits of membership. Questions to include were discussed. The importance of recognizing the two components of membership fees; alliances with other countries and supporting other individual memberships from developing countries was emphasized.

ACTION:

CO to put together 6 or so questions [e.g. what does WSI stand for; what are the benefits of membership; what other organizations exist – differ; other national advocacy groups – WSF; CAAWSI for a FAQ section of the website.

- Appointment of New Membership Committee Chair – KF recommended that Gertrude Pfister be appointed as chair [GP willing]. JA and IT will remain as a member on the committee.
 - Appointment Recommendation Approved by Board
 - Other potential individuals for membership on the committee, particularly from North-America were discussed.

ACTION:

KF to ask Gretchen Kerr (Canada) to join the Membership Committee

- Finance – Sponsorship Committee – CS & BO

CS/Bob O'Connor have agreed to co-chair this committee.

Discussion focused on possible fund raising options that might exist so that WSI would have funds to support some of the project requests in developing nations that WSI receives. It was agreed that it is important to also balance effort required with initiatives [e.g. educational on-line courses] with both fund donation likelihood as well as WSI visibility enhancement. The use of alternative technologies to enhance WSI visibility and advocacy and research efforts should also be considered as this might draw more persons to the website for membership/ donations. Pending cost it may also be more cost-effective to hire an individual to specifically raise funds on a % funds raised payment option. It was recognized that the current economy will make any endeavors in this area quite challenging.

The need to clarify what funds are being raised for [e.g. project funding requests; assist women from less developed countries attend meetings/conferences] was also discussed. This will help to better target options and areas/organizations to which we might request support. KF shared information from Nike Foundation re. project requirements for funding.

ACTION:

CS to draft letter about what WSI is – and what we have done – [similar to what WSF has done].

ACTION:

CS/BO’C/AS to develop content “flash” – to advise people who visit website of the opportunity to provide a donation. Will also need to have Susan/Ross set this option up on the website and link with PayPal.

ACTION:

Lydia – to chat with WomenWin colleague [Astrid Aafjes] to discuss other options/opportunities for funding support.

- Task Force on Homophobia – KF

CO has resigned from the committee and has identified individuals doing research in the area who might be potential Task Force members. It was agreed that the next steps were to appoint a chair, finalize membership and outline the mandate for the committee. The development of a brochure similar to that developed in the other areas was put forth as a potential “first task”.

ACTION:

CO and KF to contact suggested individuals (Pat Griffin, Vicki Krane and Heidi Eng) re. interest in task force membership. Celia Brackenridge has agreed early to be a member of the Task Force.

- Task Force on Sexual Harassment – KF

See Item 6 Organizations - IOC for progress update.

ACTION:

BD – will ask Ross to update this section of the website and include the names of the current task force members.

- New Task Force on Sport, Women and Disability – LR

Lydia introduced her concept for a new task force on Sport, Women and Disability that would focus on women with disabilities in a broad context. This is an especially large group in developing countries and the importance of moving this forward in a multi-dimensional and segmented approach to ensure its effectiveness was stressed.

The potential mandate of the task force was discussed and it was emphasized that it would be important that the work should develop from a human rights position [vs. medical model] to ensure evidenced based advocacy [as per WSI mandate] positioning.

Members also discussed other possibilities for the name of the task force [e.g. Gender and Disability – gender equity for sports with disabled persons and potential individuals who might serve as task force members. Inclusion of this area as a component of the website was also identified as a need.

ACTION:

LR to develop website content and begin to bring together a group of interested individuals to create this task force. Group would develop mandate and explore options regarding task force name.

ACTION:

BD to ask Ross to put this as a “NEW TASK FORCE FLASH” on the website

- Task Force on International Development

KF has met with several persons during the past year who have expressed a willingness to be on committee. Other potential members were discussed.

Once formulated the Task Force will need to develop objectives and develop a mandate that should have research as a base for advocacy. The Task Force should discuss the mandate decided upon by the board in 2008, which was: *To facilitate the securing of financial and infrastructure inclusion of girls and women in international sport development programs. The Task Force will design and implement strategies to both include girls and women in presently functioning programs (e.g. Right to Play) and stimulate new program development.* There may be opportunities for this Task Force to provide the broader membership with information related to Activities that focus on International Sport Development; highlight countries that have developed policies after the Britton Declaration and to develop materials related to strategies for developing project funding requests.

It was suggested that the upcoming IWG meeting in Columbia may be an opportunity for some members of the Task Force to meet and discuss what opportunities might exist for the group and to more clearly define its mandate.

- Appointment of New Task Force for Development members – KF recommended that Laura, Anita White, Chris Shelton and Lydia (all willing) be appointed as members.

- Appointment Recommendation Approved by Board

ACTION:

KF to discuss leadership of the committee with Laura and to ask Janet Kabebere-Machiaria (Kenya) and Juliana Jones Yassoda (Tanzania) to be additional members of the task force).
CR/KF to send letters to all appointed committee members.

- Task Force on Energy and Nutrition

Composition of this task force was discussed. It is important that the membership include a breadth of expertise {physiology; psychology} and also include an athlete. Several names were discussed and it was agreed that the first follow-up would be to determine a chair and then approach others. The task force could also provide potential nominees for membership.

BD also indicated that she would be willing to develop a brochure on Physical Activity and Bone Health that would support the activities of this Task Force.

ACTION:

CR/KF to do letter[s] to the women appointed and send copy of triad brochure to Task Force chair to demonstrate what is needed as “next step”

ACTION:

BD to request that the link to the Triad Coalition be added to our website

6. International Organization Updates

- Meeting(s) attended by WSI Representatives

- ICSEM Conference – Guangzhou Aug 1-5 2008-KF

WSI’s Symposium – **“Lifelong physical activity for women - benefits and barriers”** was very well received and there were approximately 80 people in attendance. Good visibility for WSI. The speakers were Karin Fasting (Norway), Gaele Ducher, (Australia) and Celia Brackenridge (England). Special thanks were extended to Celia Brackenridge who on a very short notice developed and presented a paper when Leslie White had to did not turn up.

The importance of finding funds to support individuals who present on behalf of WSI was discussed.

- ICSSPE - Guangzhou 2008 KF

ICSSPE meeting – KF represented WSI [report attached]. Main discussion items at the meeting were related to elections. Dr Herbert Haag (Germany) is the new chair of The Association Board and Margaret Talbot is new President of ICSSPE. Next meeting of the Association Board will be in Brisbane in July 2009, and JA will represent WSI.

- IWG – Finland 2008 JA

Much of the meeting was focused on a review of the strategic plan and assessing how work is moving forwards towards outcomes. Preliminary planning for 2010 conference was also an important item. The theme of the upcoming conference will be – Play – Think – Change and the date is set for 20-23 May, 2010 in Sydney Australia.

Congratulations were extended to Carole Oglesby who at the meeting was elected Vice Chair of IWG.

- IOC - BD & KF

The IOC medical committee has been reorganized. The work on the Athlete Triad has been moved from the Medical and Scientific Group to the Women and Physical Activity group. – The Athlete Triad Consensus Conference and follow-up group work has included the development of a CD with educational information that has been distributed to a large number of people. This has been followed up with the creation of a DVD with short videos.

KF reported that IOC is following up the position statement on sexual harassment from 2007 with a new project: The development of an *Athlete Protection Model of Best Practice* and an *Athlete Education* program via an interactive on-line program. An expert Consultative Group has been appointed. The group is chaired by Margo Mountjoy (Canada) from the IOC Medical Commission. Other members are Celia Brackenridge (England), Kari Fasting (Norway) and Anne Tiivas (England).

- UN – CSW 53 session 2009 JA, CO & KF

This was a very successful event [see attachment distributed with agenda]. IWG together with WSI were responsible for the program. The Session was chaired by Johanna Andriaanse, and Carole Oglesby and Kari Fasting were among the speakers. Approximately 40-45 persons attended the session. Summary of the report is posted on the WSI website.

ACTION:

JA to see if WSI will also post the report [or its link]

Subsequent discussion focused on whether WSI wanted to be on the program again next year and what role that WSI might play with respect to parallel events, contribution to NGO consultation day, shadow reports, fact sheets and keynote presentation at the NGO consultation day. It was agreed upon that it is important that WSI continues and increase the involvement at the CSW future sessions if possible.

Members agreed that WSI needs to better understand how CEDAW operates so that we can maximize our strategy and ensure our visibility. This is a good opportunity to not only introduce ourselves but also to bring forward a statement on how WSI thinks that CEDAW might look at sport.

In their country report to CEDAW, countries also have to report on sport. There is no knowledge about if the countries are doing this or not, or any statistics about the content. A possible research project was discussed: To do content analysis of the part of the reports that concern sports.

ACTION:

KF/JA – works with planning parallel event(s); program contribution at NGO consultation day and CSW 54 session in 2010

JA – start conversation with Women Win about the possibility of funding a research project {KF possible to have students do the content analysis project}

7. Updates on Ongoing Issues and Areas of Interest

- UNESCO Observatory on Women, Sport and PE – SC
 - No further update

- Publication on a book from the conference in Trikala – SC
 - Identification of publisher difficult – will continue to search.

- Translations of brochures (SH and Triad) – to Spanish [priority] and French. Agreed to do the Triad brochure and one of the SH brochures. Will try to find a member to assist with the translations
 - Membership brochures in Arabic?
 - [useful; practical; cost] Check with XXX from Katar. Does the text need to be Arabic or is it better to change the brochure [pictures etc.] and focus on cultural sensitive brochure in English. – put on hold until more information is available.
 - Association of Arabic Women in Sport – content now on our web.

ACTION:

JA to talk with Nicole - re. Spanish translation - will bring back cost estimate to Board; Lydia will discuss possibility re. French with a colleague)

- Ski Jumping in 2010 - CO
 - Meeting in Denver with athletes (2) and IOC EB did not occur. IOC position is to let it play out in the Canadian Justice system.
 - Members encouraged to sign petition

- Canoe/Kayak – BD
 - Update on request for research information and website posting.

- Collaboration Women's Education Worldwide – CS
 - Conference in Italy – not a lot of enthusiasm for sport and physical education at this time. Next conference in Sydney where there will be more opportunity for open discussion around other aspects of women's academic life [beyond intellectual]. Physical Education curriculum components? Beginning interest – need to continue to make this visible.

ACTION:

CS to follow up

- UN - ECOSOC Accreditation – JA
 - Letter of Intent has been drafted. When received the NGO section will mail to WSI the application package – must be received by June 1, 2010 of year preceding membership request.
- Women Win – LR – Member of Advisory Board
 - Funding NGO – funds women and sports projects. Started through person originally with Mama Cash - also provided original support with Nike; Development Ministry and Ministry of Sport in the Netherlands? 6M Euros – Sport and Development [target women, children and disabled persons]. Other corporate support [some banks freezing funding of outside groups. Economic empowerment of women through sport.
 - Want to focus more on RESEARCH – esp. projects focusing on Advancement and Empowerment of Women and Sport – Developing country focus is a significant enhancement {Africa, Asia, Latin America, Oceania} – Economic empowerment
 - Support projects to get women and girls involved in sports]
 - e.g. Shift the Goal Post –
 - important for WSI to connect with this group
- Sport for Women with Disability in an International Perspective – LR
 - deferred –
- Other
 - Herbert Haag Sport Information Centre
 - Gathering books for Africa – information was passed on to members
 - Global Women's Movement – potential combined symposium at IAPSGW meeting IWG, WSI and IAPSGW [Darlene Kluka] – each group to look at one particular element/part. KF and CO will not attend the conference, and JA is representing IWG. Chris will be attending and will present from WSI. Conference is mid-July 2009.

8. Future projects

- a. Research on women and sport satellite symposium/conference - JA, BD & KF

Background – ACSM – put out a statement re. good health for physical activity targeted to white men and women – led to development of the WSI conference in St Louis (2002) . – to explore these issues in other demographic groups. The name of the conference was: **Physical Activity and Health Guidelines for Women: National and International Considerations Related to Ethnicity and Race.** In addition to international presentations there were group sessions focused on specific questions.

The group discussed what are possible NEXT STEPS might be in this area. One possibility was a satellite conference/symposium before the conference in Sydney in 2010, another was to have a satellite connected to ACSM again in 2010 or 2011. It was agreed upon that it was very short time to prepare for Sydney, plus that many members would be involved in the conference in different ways. The idea presented by JA of gather the most well known researchers on women and sport before the IWG conference in Sydney was discussed, but turned out to be difficult in

practice (criteria etc.). The need to make an action oriented symposium to enhance WSI visibility and promote collaborative discussion across multiple groups and nations was emphasized. We will need to acquire funding to support the travel of persons from other countries for this to be most effective. There must also be a tangible outcome [publication etc.]

ACTION:

BD will check with ACSM the possibility of a satellite conference in 2010/2011

- b. Other projects – goal to decide upon project proposal by end of meeting

It was agreed that given the effort required to support the projects related to UN (CEDAW and UN-CSW activities) that no additional projects were needed for the upcoming year.

9. Other

10. Future Meetings

- City/place in 2010 - After completion of IWG meetings in Sydney. May 24 afternoon - May 26, 2010. All board members are asked to mark these dates in their calendar for 2010.

Draft Still to be Approved