

February 27, 2023, 12:00 – 1:30 PM
EEJ Full Board Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting began at 12:00 PM.

Mission Moment from Jorge Baron, Executive Director of NWIRP

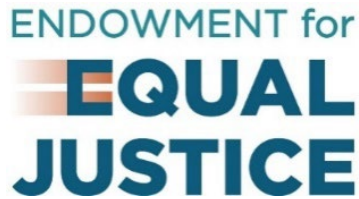
- Jorge Baron, the soon-retiring Executive Director of NWIRP, presented to the Full Board on immigration issues and NWIRP's direct services and efforts to change policy.
 - The government does not consider legal representation as a right for those seeking asylum or otherwise migrating to the United States. Only 15 percent of those in immigration detention have representation. NWIRP helps to fill this gap by providing direct legal services to clients.
- Question: What immigration policy would Jorge change if he could change any, and how can we all rally behind these efforts?
 - Jorge would change the registry provision, a process for immigrants to become lawful permanent residents (green card holders) based on their long-standing presence in the country, regardless of their status or method of entry to the country. Doing so would legalize millions of people who would then qualify for permanent residence.
 - He would also ensure a quicker and more effective process for handling asylum claims. Current claims can take years to process, and the government does not provide resources to enable immigration courts to move more quickly. However, funding immigration reform is not realistic in the current policy climate.

Welcome and President's Report

- The Board welcomed its newest member, Annie Lee, the former Executive Director of LFW grantee TeamChild.
- Judge Schwab moved to accept minutes from the Full Board meeting on December 14th and the Board unanimously approved this motion.

Endowment Amended and Restated Bylaws

- Kay Frank moved that the Full Board adopt the Endowment's amended bylaws. The Full Board unanimously approved this motion.



Endowment and LFW Updates

- The Endowment is working on scheduling an Advisory Council meeting for 2023.
- LFW recently hired Laura Barry for the position of Annual Campaign Director of the Campaign for Equal Justice. She was previously the Development Director for the Washington State Historical Society and has consulted with non-profits.
- Melinda Mann is leaving as Chief Development and Stewardship Officer for LFW and, therefore, the Endowment for Equal Justice. The Endowment Executive Committee has discussed a comprehensive handover plan for her eventual replacement and plans for an interim period before onboarding a new staff member in April.
 - Remaining questions include what the Endowment needs in terms of staffing to implement its strategic plan, as the Endowment has increased in size and expanded its ambitions in recent years.
 - The Endowment Board will be meeting with LFW to figure out next steps, such as creating a job description which will be ready by early April. LFW plans to review applications beginning May 1st.
 - Endowment staff will meet with Committee chairs to document the current status of the committees and discuss what relationships need to be nurtured in this interim period.

Goldmark

- This year was the first hybrid Goldmark event. 830 people registered, 670 people attended in person, and 160 registered for virtual attendance.
- The consensus is that Goldmark was a success. Other feedback includes that the section on awards could be shorter, and we could include more information related to grantees next year.
- The fundraising numbers are not yet finalized. The fundraising goal was \$450,000, which was not met partially due to the expense of in-person events and the lack of larger gifts received in previous years.
- Staff will work to create a montage of the event speeches to distribute via social media.

The Board entered Executive Session at 1:30 PM. **The meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.**