

WIKI SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC, INC.
Annual Membership Meeting

December 14, 2023 at 8:00 p.m.
Conference Call

Board Members Present: Peter Meyer [President]
John Sadowski [Vice President]
Diane Shaw [Secretary]
Sara Snyder [Treasurer]
Kevin Payravi
Gerald Shields

Board Member Not Present: Rob Fernandez

Guests: Mia Cariello
Ariel Cetrone [Programs and Partnerships Manager]
Jim Hayes
Kelly Doyle Kim
Kevin Li
User: Women artist updates

Total number of attendees: 12

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 p.m.

1. Members of the Board of Directors introduced themselves to the attendees.
2. Mr. Meyer summarized the annual report for 2022-2023, including the chapter's support for WikiConference North America, its GLAM partnerships, the Wiki Science Competition, multilingual events, and Wikimedia Movement Strategy discussions.
3. Ms. Cetrone, WMDC Programs and Partnerships Manager, gave the programs report highlighting various activities and accomplishments of the chapter over the past year. In addition to working with the usual DC area institutional partners such as the Smithsonian Institution, she held events remotely with Tennessee State University and the University of South Florida. She noted that WMDC will probably hold even more events such as editathons and training sessions in 2024. Ms. Cetrone also described contract work she has conducted for Hacks/Hackers and the National Science Foundation on WikiCred, NewsQ and the ARTT tool designed for countering misinformation.

4. Mr. Meyer described the work he has been doing with Ms. Cetrone to investigate the feasibility of creating a North American hub for Wikimedia chapters and affiliates, funded by a Wikimedia Foundation grant. There is a page on Meta for the North American Hub Research Project, which has involved holding focus groups, a workshop and presentation at the past year's Wikiconference North America, and other fact-finding conversations with various international Wiki hubs and large affiliates. Mr. Meyer and Ms. Cetrone are preparing a report on the effort for the Wikimedia Foundation that is due in January 2024.
5. Mr. Payravi summarized the past election process and results. The online platform ElectionBuddy was used for the first time and worked smoothly, Twenty-two ballots were received, meeting the quorum. Mr. Fernandez and Ms. Snyder were re-elected and Kevin Li was added as a new Board member. All ballots received approved of the proposed chapter budget, as well.
6. Ms. Snyder gave the financial report for the fiscal year (October 1, 2022–September 30, 2023). The report is also posted online on the WMDC website. She noted that the chapter is back on a sound and secure financial footing. Two Wikimedia Foundation grants were received. The new budget is an estimate to cover the fiscal year October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. She thanked the chapter's members for paying their dues and the donors who have helped keep the chapter going. In the coming months she expects to have some professional help with the bookkeeping and accounting. The chapter's taxes for fiscal year 2024 will be filed in January. She expects that additional grants and contracting opportunities will come up over the rest of the fiscal year.
7. The Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Kunal Mehta, whose technical expertise has been essential in keeping the WMDC online platform running properly.
8. The Distinguished Service Award was presented to former Board member Kelly Doyle Kim, who has worked tirelessly to promote Wiki work at the Smithsonian Institution for the American Women's History Initiative
9. Mr. Meyer offered remarks about current issues and future plans for the Chapter, such as:
 - a. Holding more editathons and workshops, considered the core work of the chapter, including more in-person events that had been suspended during the height of COVID-19 restrictions
 - b. Becoming a member of the Open Gov Hub co-working and event space
 - c. Supporting the upcoming Wiki Science Competition
 - d. Seeking more grants and contracts for research work and training
 - e. Moving forward with developing a North American hub
 - f. Participating in global Wiki movement strategy as well as strategic planning for the chapter's future
10. The Board held a brief question and answer period with the attendees, and then thanked everyone for attending the meeting

The meeting formally adjourned at 8:44 p.m.