



Members Meeting Agenda
November 11, 2015 – MC 4061, 5:00-7:30pm

Agenda Item	Description	Time
Dinner		5:00PM
Introductions	Quorum check: 20 (quorum not met) - Decisions made at the Members Meeting will be ratified by the WPIRG Board.	5:30PM
Approval of the Agenda	Amendments: a. Motion to discuss the funding applications regardless of decision on Motion 1. Passed. 14 Y, 0 N, 2 Abstain. Decision: Agenda approved as amended.	5:50PM
WPIRG Updates	Board: a. External funding decisions made by the Board i. Healing Our Spirit Event -submitted by the Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre - denied due to location (in New Zealand) ii. First Nations Drum Making Ceremony, submitted by the Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre - funded for \$1,000. iii. Funding request by Engineer Without Borders for a coop student to work with them - funded for \$1000 from the student solidarity budget line. iv. Decolonization Dinner in Guelph - denied due to location (no UW students involved) v. Gathering for Aboriginal Health and Wellness conference - denied due to lack of funds and because the Board is concerned about establishing a funding relationship with WAEC that it feels should be better funded by the university. Action Groups: a. Fossil Fuel UW is organizing for the Waterloo Environment Student Endowment Fund (WESEF) AGM Nov. 12, to vote for WESEF to divest from fossil fuels. b. KW Solidarity Network is currently working with three tenant cases. One tenant is being helped to get their stolen deposits back from their landlords. They are also helping to organize a building committee in one high rise apartment. c. Palestine Solidarity Action Group continues their Ethical Collaboration UW campaign. They recently release a new video (video shown). d. Food Not Bombs - no update	5:55PM

Business Motions		
<p>Motion 1: Members Meeting and Funding Application Process Proposal</p>	<p>Context: At the July members meeting, the board brought forward a draft proposal to make changes to the way the funding process is handled. At that meeting, the membership suggested that we operate on the basis of a committee of members at large to approve funding applications, who will then bring their recommendations to the Members Meeting for ratification. When the final proposal was presented at the October members meeting, there were both positive and negative reactions, but a lack of time for discussion lead to the motion being tabled to a future meeting. Below is the same proposal, but with more clarity and more time for the discussion to take place.</p> <p><u>Proposal Part 1 - Remove current funding application process from the MM and replace with the solidarity funding committee*</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WPIRG has limited time to interact with its members. Instead of spending time at MMs discussing funding, time could be better spent elsewhere (political education etc.) - Make MMs less about bureaucracy and more about interacting with fellow members - Allows for increased member participation - More efficient to have committee dedicated only to making decisions on funding, allowing them to get more acquainted with the proposals in advance of meeting - Ensures that members have final say over a key portion of the organization’s decision making power - Allows members to learn about the funding applications and their associated projects, initiatives events etc. <p>*Solidarity Funding Committee</p> <p>Quorum for the funding committee will be a minimum of 5 members of WPIRG, including at least 1 board member and 2 members at large. Staff members may also be present, but only as an advisory role. There is no maximum number of members to make up the committee, and these meetings are open to all members and will be announced in advance. Funding applicants will be invited to the meeting to present their application and provide clarifications, if necessary.</p> <p>Decision making in the committee will be based on consensus. Funding committee meetings should occur a minimum of two days before member meetings. The funding committee will record minutes of their decisions and associated rationale, for member review. The rationale should be well documented in order to inform members and answer any questions from the membership. Members from the funding committee should be prepared to present their decisions at the subsequent member meeting. WPIRG</p>	6:13PM

	<p>members, at the members meetings, will be presented the decisions and rationale for each funding application in order to approve them omnibus, or make amendments, if necessary.</p> <p>Proposal 2 - Member meetings will have a new format, where the previous time allotted to making funding decisions, will now be used for discussion. These discussions will be driven by the members at the meeting, but an emphasis will be placed on campus and community issues.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The purpose of the discussions will be twofold: one, is to let other members know that they are not alone in their experiences and two, to hopefully get like-minded people working collectively, rather than individually, on issues that affect them - It can be difficult to get many members all together at one meeting, and this time spent together should be dedicated to more productive conversations that can improve our collective well-being - Making decisions on funding applications can be boring for those who are uninterested or unacquainted with the funding proposal and its context. Moving the discussion away from funding and towards a general discussion of campus and community life will make it more engaging and easier for anyone to get involved. - Members do not lose control of making funding decisions. Members can (and are encouraged to) have a say on the funding applications via the creation of the solidarity funding committee <p>Amendment: Motion to give the committee a 2 to 1 member-at-large to Board member membership. 18 Yes. 0 No. 0 Abstain.</p> <p>Motion to call the question: Passed.</p> <p>Decision: Motion passed: 12 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstain.</p>	
<p>Motion to amend agenda</p>	<p>Motion to add a late funding application to the agenda. Passes. 10 Yes, 3 No, 2 abstain.</p>	<p>6:45pm</p>
<p>Motion 2: Funding applications</p>	<p>1. Phil Monture Funding application - \$400</p> <p>Decision: 8 Yes, 1 No, 6 abstaining</p> <p>2. Alternatives Journal application - \$1000</p> <p>Decision: 0 Yes, 11 No, 4 Abstain</p>	<p>6:50PM</p>

<p>Motion 3: Process for handling funding applications left off the official Members Meeting agenda in error</p>	<p>Be it resolved that, in the event of a funding application not being put on the agenda by WPIRG's mistake,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Every effort be made to have the application heard normally at the meeting- i.e. shown on the screen like the other motions; 2) Should the application be tabled to the board/funding committee, that a representative of the application be allowed to defend it in person when that meeting occurs; 3) Board members are encouraged by the membership to abstain from motions to table to the board. <p>Decision: 13 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstain</p>	<p>7:01PM</p>
<p>Open Discussion</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TA/RA concerns were raised. Issues included different pay for same work across departments, harsh financial penalties for lateness, different rate of pay between undergrad and grad TAs. A Facebook group will be created and sent out over WPIRG social media and newsletter. 2. Accessibility Services has made changes recently. Counseling Services is backlogged for requests for extra time for coursework and exams based on cognitive accessibility needs. The reason is due to a long process required to get the arrangements (medical appointments). Some students needed alternative arrangements now cannot get them in time. Also, re-doing some of these tests costs as much as \$2500 and most insurance plans only cover a small portion (around \$500). 	<p>7:08PM</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Grab any left over food and help with clean up if you can.</p>	<p>7:30pm</p>