

VIRGINIA GILDERSLEEVE INTERNATIONAL FUND, INC.

ANNUAL MEETING

MINUTES

12 APRIL 2008

PRESIDING, BARBARA CAREY, PRESIDENT

The Annual Meeting of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund, Inc. was held at the VGIF offices at Marble Collegiate Church Office Building, 3 West 29th Street, New York, New York, 10001 on Saturday, April 12, 2008 with **President Barbara Carey** presiding. The President called the meeting to order at 3:35 am and welcomed all those in attendance.

The proposed agenda was amended to note that item 4.2.1 should read 2008. The agenda was adopted as amended by general consent.

Officers Present: President Barbara **Carey**; Second Vice President Eileen **Menton**; Fourth Vice President Karen **McKee**; Secretary Judith **Whitelock**; Treasurer Margery **Sullivan**.

Officers Absent: First Vice President, Virginia **Palmer**, and Third Vice-President, Hope S. **Miller**.

Board Members Present: Lois **Abromitis**, Evelyn **Cumming**, Susannah **Dhamdhere**, Sandra **Featherman**, Maggie **Ford**, Marion **Kilson**, Kathleen **Magill**, Dagmar **McGill**, Marian **Nauta**, Rita **Skillman**, Claire **Stein**, Florine **Swanson**, Gomathy **Venkateswar**, Dana **Wright**, Leslie **Wright**, Jack **Young** and Jackie **Shahzadi**, Ex-Officio.

Board Members Absent: Joan **Chatfield**, Sumana **Fernando**, Marta **Groisman**, and Camille **MacDonald Polski**.

Staff Present: Executive Director, Fay **Kittelson**; Zoe **Kelly-Nacht**.

Members and Visitors Present: Parliamentarian, Claire **Stein**; Myrna **Brown**, Wes Schwemmer **Cady**, Katherine **Eaton**, Sema **Faigen**, Rebecca **Fairchild**, Leesa **Haire**, Sonya **Hostman**, Shireen **Lee**, Virginia **Maynard**, Louise **McLeod**, Terry **Oudraad**, Bea **Ramsay**, Shirley **Randell**, Jeri **Rhodes**, Linda **Hebert Sekiguchi**, Johanna **Sterbin**, Nancy **Vang**, Europe **Wilson-Agwu**, Marilyn **Zook**, Elizabeth **Miller**, Marcia **Goffin**, Claire **Fulcher**, Jewell **Hanna**, and Elsa **Ross-Greifinger**.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting were read and corrected by the Reading Committee. The minutes were adopted.

The Reading Committee for the April 2008 Board of Directors meeting will be Louise **McLeod** and Jack **Young**.

Proxies were received from 172 members. Hope **Miller** assigned her proxies to Eileen **Menton**. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Fay **Kittelson** reported that she had met some of the project directors at the CSW meeting and gathered information. She had emailed the project directors in Kenya when the violence broke out there and has heard from most of them.

OFFICER REPORTS

President

President Barbara **Carey** thanked all members of the Board, the committees, and all members for all the work they have accomplished during the past six years. She announced the Consent Calendar as adopted by the Board.

Project Grants

Convener Eileen **Menton** noted that the amount of grants is almost \$150,000 this year due to increased giving. There were 638 applications received; the committee considered 134 from the recommendations of the previewers and 30 were funded plus an additional one in reserve. The committee is looking for ways to increase on-site monitoring of projects. The approved grants were announced.

Treasurer

Treasurer Margery **Sullivan** presented the financial statements for 2007.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Please note that printed reports for Standing Committees, Additional Committees and Special Positions were distributed at the meeting. These reports were not presented orally during the meeting.

Membership

Claire **Stein** reported on current membership figures, committee activity and gave donor breakdown information. There are 946 individual members and 102 group members.

Constitution & Bylaws

Rita **Skillman** presented the report of the committee. The proposed amendments had been circulated to the membership as required.

Motion #1

The Constitution & Bylaws Committee moves to delete “Global Network” from Article VIII, Section 1.

Motion adopted

Motion #2

The Constitution & Bylaws Committee moves to delete the entire contents of Article VIII, Section 2D, Global Network Committee so as to remove this committee from the list of Standing Committees of VGIF.

Motion adopted

Motion #3

The Constitution & Bylaws Committee moves to amend Article VIII, Section 2. E. (1) by striking “eleven (11)” and inserting “fifteen (15).”

Motion adopted

Nominating

Jackie **Shahdazi** presented the report of the Nominating Committee, which has been circulated, to all members in the annual meeting notice materials.

President **Carey** called for a vote on the slate of nominees as submitted by the committee. The nominees were elected by voice vote. Those elected are as follows:

Board of Directors

1st term

Anita Miller, Sacramento, CA
Carolyn Cowgill, Doylestown, PA
Linda Sekiguchi, Minden, NV
Shireen Lee, San Francisco, CA
Myrna Brown, Reston, VA
Rebecca Fairchild, Brattleboro, VT
Jacqueline Shahzadi, Norwalk, CA

2nd term

Susannah Dhamdhere, Seattle, WA
Margery Sullivan, Bethesda, MD
Marta Groisman, Mar del Plata, Argentina
Marion Kilson, Lexington, MA
Lois Abromitis, Middletown, RI

Officers:

President – Eileen Menton, Laurel, MD
1st Vice President – Dagmar McGill, Philadelphia, PA
2nd Vice President (Project Grants) – Marion Kilson, Lexington, MA
3rd Vice President – Dana Wright, Amherst, NY
Treasurer – Margery Sullivan, Bethesda, MD (2nd term)
Secretary – Judith Whitelock, Fort Wayne, IN (2nd term)

2008-2009 Nominating Committee

Virginia Maynard, New York, NY (Convener)
Nancy Vang, Brooklyn, NY
Claire Stein, Oro Valley, AZ
Sandra Featherman, Kennebunkport, ME
Hope S. Miller, New York, NY (2nd term)
Lois Abromitis, Middletown, RI (alternate)

Finance Committee

Sandra **Featherman** reviewed the proposals of the Finance Committee that had been approved by the Board of Directors.

Development Committee

Maggie **Ford** reported that the Development Committee revised its policies to include the statement that donations from current grant applicants will not be accepted. This policy is to deter possible conflict of interest issues.

Presentation of Certificates

Sema **Faigen**, past president, presented certificates of appreciation to the following members completing their terms:

Barbara **Carey** – President and Board Member
Maggie **Ford** – Board Member, Development Committee Convener, and
2007-08 Nominating Committee
Kathleen **Magill** – Board Member, Constitution & Bylaws Convener and
2007-08 Nominating Committee
Hope S. **Miller** – 3rd Vice President, Board Member, and 2007-08
Nominating Committee
Virginia **Palmer** – 1st Vice President and Board Member
Aileen **Worrell** – Board Member, On-Site Committee, and Project Grants
Previewer

Anita **Miller** – Development Committee
Bea **Ramsay** – Membership Committee
Evelyn **Cumming** – On-Site Committee Convener
Virginia **Maynard** – United Nations Committee and 2007-08 Nominating
Committee
Jacqueline **Shahzadi** – 2007-08 Nominating Committee
Louise **McLeod** – 2007-08 Nominating Committee
Astrid **Paniagua** – United Nations Committee
Jacqueline **Woods** – United Nations Committee
Kay **Fusano** – International Collector of Member Contributions

Jeannette **van Nuffel** – Project Grants Committee
Myrna **Brown** – Project Grants Previewer
Haoua **Diatta** – Project Grants Previewer
Anne **Touwen** – Project Grants Previewer

Joan **Milburn** – Project Grants Previewer
Rebecca **Linton** – On-Site Visitor in China
Zoe **Kelly-Nacht** – On-Site Visitor in Nepal
Shiva **Bajpai** – On-Site Visitor in Nepal

Marta **Groisman** – Membership Committee
Eileen **Menton** – Project Grants Committee Convener
Florine **Swanson** – Board of Directors and Development Committee
Joan **Chatfield** – Global Network Committee Convener
Lucy **Moe** – Barnard Research Intern
Everlyn **Suleh** – Project Grant Evaluator in Kenya

President Barbara **Carey** was commended for her superb leadership and tireless devotion to the work of VGIF for the past six years.

The Annual meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Submitted by Judith Whitelock, Secretary

Approved by Reading Committee

Louise McLeod

Jack Young