

Minutes of WAF Working Committee Meeting

23rd December 2020

Present

Khawar Mumtaz (Rani)

Nighat Khan (Bunny)

Naila Naz

Salima Hashmi (Cheemi)

Riffat Maqsood

Jalvat Ali

Sahar Bandial

Mehreen

Erum Kashif

Nida Usman

Tauseef Hyat

Bunny introduced two persons who wish to join WAF, Mehreen and Erum. Everyone welcomed them and they introduced themselves. Erum teaches Urdu at LGS Main and is good at writing, plus she can promote WAF through social media. Mehreen is doing her MPhil on Social Change.

Naila hopes to get more people on board the working committee and is already in touch with them.

Later Nida, a lawyer also joined the meeting. She works with a firm called Women In Law and they focus on ending gender-based violence.

Procedure for joining WAF was explained to them by Bunny and they are all looking forward to becoming members.

Agenda Item No. 1a *Webinars*

The next Webinar has been tentatively scheduled for January on PECA. The speakers will be Nighat Dad and Farieha Aziz. Naila will confirm date for this and get back to WAF.

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The 2nd Webinar, which is scheduled for 12th February will be on the Women's Movement starting from the 1980's and the focus would be on the generational gaps, understanding the role of NGOs and the history of the women's movement. WAF national would be invited and the Co-Ordinator's would coordinate with the chapters. Naila will help with mobilization. Because of

covid, it would be difficult to organize an event and the WC agreed that the Webinar was the best alternative for 12th February.

Agenda Item No. 2- Legal Committee

Rani said she had drafted the statement on The Rape Ordinance, and will be circulating it to the Statement committee shortly. Once approved it would be put on the WAF fb page.

Agenda Item No. 3 & 4 Twitter and fb and statements.

There had been some lack of clarity on the issue of tweets. Now it has been clarified that the Media Statement Committee will decide what to send, as often statements have to be sent quickly to be effective. Any WAF member can suggest a tweet if within the WAF Charter. Nighat Dad can tweet on Meesha.

Agenda Item No. 5 New Membership

Naila said she would be mobilizing for new members, and also ask members who had drifted away to come back on board.

Erum said she could promote WAF via social media. And also said that a quick response to her queries by Bunny had convinced her to join. She will send a proposal for this.

Agenda Item no. 6 PDM Movement + Misc.

WAF would not support anything undemocratic or unconstitutional.

Bunny asked the younger members of their opinion about PTI.

Nida said she didn't vote for them but had had some interaction. Sahar said that people were disappointed. Jalvat said that people in the slum areas where she worked were very politically aware and find Imran Khan totally incompetent.

Rani said that the Ehsaas programme was unable to benefit women who did not have an ID Card. She suggested the Government should have a Universal Protection Plan to which women should be able to apply for help whenever needed. Home Based workers needed to be registered as workers to be able to get benefits due to workers.

Bunny suggested that Ume Laila and Shahnaz, who work with home-based workers, could write a list of demands and WAF could lobby with the Government and the Parliamentarians.

Agenda item no. 7 Charter of Democracy

The Statement Committee needs to get together and complete the work on the Charter. Since many of the Statement Committee members are busy, it was agreed that the meeting and charter may be postponed till January 2021.