



October 19, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 19, 2025

Location of Meeting: Zoom

Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm

Name of Officers:

President - Amber Crews

VP, Secretary, Treasurer – Jillian Schoenherr

Board Members Present:

Amber, Jillian, Amanda Deb, Carolina, Nia, Rachel, Brittany, Jacqu (7pm)

1. Review and confirm prior meeting minutes

Motion made by Jillian to approve July meeting minutes.

- **All Approve**

2. New Board Member

- a. Introduction of Amana Holmes, new board member

- i. Amanda was voted on via an email vote of board members.
- ii. Amanda has been assisting with the DGM and other administrative tasks over the last year.

1. Yass Grant Update

- a. We were not chosen for the YASS grant. After viewing the winners, this grant is not for schools with only one location or who are using alternative education methods.
 - i. Unless parameters change or we expand to serve thousands of learners, we will not qualify for this grant.

2. Other Grants

- a. Pre-application for Vela Development Grant - 150K

- i. We applied for this grant, which is an unrestricted grant. That means it can be used towards overhead, building purchases, salaries and more.
- ii. It is a grant that comes a year after receiving the initial Vela grant, which we did in October of 2024.

- b. We also continue to apply for other grants. There is an excel sheet on the WILC drive that lists grants we are eligible to apply for, dates they open and close, and

links to the grant website. There is another area that tracks what grants were applied for and who submitted those applications.

3. Feedback form

- a. This is to review feedback that was received through the feedback button on the WILC webpage. Much of this information was addressed in the prior BOD meeting.
- b. Court case participation
 - i. WILC is an advocacy non-profit and advocates for any and all who request support.
 - ii. Amber Crews & Jillian Schoenherr were asked by prior employee, Taylor Myers, to attend their custody hearing as witnesses. At the arrival of the court case, they were not able to be used as witnesses. At that time, the person that requested them to act as witnesses, then asked them to remain for advocacy and support because they didn't have a lawyer. At this time Jillian sat next to Taylor as requested.
 1. Neither Jillian or Amber gave any legal advice to this person at any time.
 2. There was a document completed by Jillian Schoenherr on behalf of the employee, because they did not have capacity to complete the form at the time.
- c. Review of communication and referencing of WILC
- d. Removal of Photos and References
 - i. The former employee, Taylor Myers contacted both Amber and Jillian and requested that all photos of them be removed from all social media, website etc.
 1. This request was completed and the requestor was notified.
- e. BIAS
 - i. It has been suggested that there was bias shown by Amber Crews and Jillian in relation to Taylor Myers.
 1. Both Amber and Jillian were acting within WILCs mission as support and sponsors for a neurodivergent individual.
 2. Taylor Myers leaving WILC had no correlation to the request to attend court as witnesses.
 - ii. The WILC Board has been aware of any and all changes and activities of WILC and WI-ALC.
- f. Personnel Change
 - i. It was suggested that the turnover at WI-ALC was extraordinarily high.
 1. There has only been one facilitator who has left WILC since its inception in 2024.
 - a. There have been subs who have moved or no longer had the schedule ability to fill the spaces as needed.

2. WI-ALC has done meetings and received anonymous feedback from current and substitute facilitators, that they are happy with their working conditions, support and payscale.
4. Is a closed meeting necessary to give more detail to members of the BOD?
 - a. WILC BOD opted to not need a closed meeting to discuss further, and to move on to the next agenda items.
5. Paid Members on the Board
 - a. Initially after assuming the 50(c)(3), we were advised that no member being paid was able to be on the BOD. Due to this, members who were being paid as facilitators, were removed from the board. We later found that to be untrue.
 - i. The rule is that no board member can be paid to be a member of the board, and it can be by volunteer only.
 - ii. Amber Crews and Jillian Schoenherr verified this with the lawyer, who confirmed.
 - iii. The lawyer said to make sure it was stated in the by-laws.
6. ALC
 - a. Enrollment
 - i. Several families adjusted or unenrolled due to financial or health concerns
 1. We had one family who unenrolled due to significant health issues.
 2. One family with 2 children, attending 1 day a week, unenrolled before attending because of schedule conflicts and finances.
 - ii. Facilitator Update
 1. New Subs
 - a. We have 2 new Subs, Jon Fuller and Grayson Harvey. Both were referred to us by facilitator, Anjali.
 - i. Jon (Wu Tang) Fuller is a local artist and graphic designer who holds a BA in Graphic Design, substitutes as an art teacher at Duke, and works as care worker and nanny.
 - ii. Grayson Harvey holds a B.A. in English, Creative Writing, Social and Economic Justice and is long time supporter with Feed Durham
 2. Promotion
 - a. Angie Collins has been promoted to Lead Facilitator and Executive Assistant.
 - i. They have taken on more responsibility and training of the other facilitators. They will also be outside of the classroom one day per week to work on the administrative side.
 3. Schedule Shifts

- a. At the end of September we had to make some schedule adjustments to meet the ratio of facilitators to learners while covering salaries via enrollment.
 - b. Scholarships
 - i. The effects of the economy are being seen in enrollment and aid requests.
 - ii. Increase in financial aid requests
 - 1. Many families who were able to pay out of pocket the year before are in need of discounts and scholarships this year.
7. DGM
 - a. Sponsors and Advertising
 - i. We are trading advertising with Durham Magazine for an advertising space in their fall issue. This is a value of over 2,000.
 - ii. We have received some small advertisers from vendors who are attending the market. We also reviewed a sponsorship from a local dance company.
 - b. Volunteers
 - i. We are in need of more volunteers than we had last year due to selling food and having a bigger merchandise stand.
 - 1. We have had several people from outside the organization sign up to help the day of the event.
 - ii. Connections for Event Rentals
 - 1. We are looking for anyone with a connection to a local business who rents tents and dance floors to see if we can get a discounted rate.
 - iii. Lighting Set up
 - 1. We are able to put up lights before the event so we are not scrambling the days before.
 - 2. We still need volunteers to string lights at the pavilion, beginning 2 weeks before the event.
 - iv. Financial
 - 1. Current income for 2025 event
 - a. Income \$11,544 vendor fees
 - b. Expenses \$1,694
 - i. Current Net Project Income \$9,849
8. Community partners Update
 - a. We currently have a wait list of local businesses that would like to be on our community partners list and some who would like to partner with WILC.
 - b. Application - what we are waiting for is an electronic application to place on the website for those interested to sign up on.
 - i. Community partners circle is going to work on the questions list and will create the electronic application.
9. Overall Financials Beginning Current FY 2025

- a. Total Gross Income of \$36,470
 - i. ALC: \$33,285
 - 1. We are tracking ALC scholarships monthly: expensing them to the foundation and crediting them to Scholarship income. This negates out for EOY financials when Foundation and ALC merge for one total, but allows us to track how much the Foundation supporting in scholarship funding.
 - ii. DGM: \$3,535
 - iii. Fundraising: \$130
- b. Total Expenses of \$21,249
 - i. ALC: \$15,023
 - 1. Largest expenses found in:
 - a. Payroll: \$6,745
 - b. Supplies: \$3,587
 - i. \$2,100 to upfit the woods area for the new ALC year
 - c. Rent: \$2,757
 - ii. Foundation: \$2,691
 - 1. Largest expenses found in:
 - a. Scholarships paid \$2,940
 - i. There was a refund of \$280 from a canceled conference reservation.
 - iii. Fundraising: \$1,160
 - 1. Largest expenses found in:
 - a. Special Events \$973
 - i. Expenses for foundation marketing materials for events set up around Durham (eno, homeschool unleashed)
 - iv. DGM: \$1,193
 - 1. Largest expense found in:
 - a. Advertising \$499
 - i. Signage, posters, sign displays
 - b. Supplies \$1,194
 - i. Includes deposit for Brats from Noble Meats \$510
 - v. Management: \$1,181
 - 1. Largest Expense found in:
 - a. Print: \$1,295
 - i. Retractable Banner for Foundation
 - b. Refund of \$312 from canceled convention hotel fee

10. Classes

- a. Podcast

- i. We have recorded and are editing our first episode, who is WILC.
- ii. We are in need of local experts to appear on the podcast and talk about their area of expertise.
 - 1. Jac - gestalt learning
 - 2. Deb - technology use
 - 3. Rachel - medically complex children
- b. Any Classes to be taught online (spring time)
 - i. Zoom or recorded
 - 1. Jac - gestalt learning
 - 2. Deb - technology use
 - 3. Jillian - Intro to the Nervous System
 - 4. Amber - Self Directed Education

11. No other business.

12. Meeting closed at 7:30pm

Minutes written by Jilian Schoenherr, VP, Treasurer & Secretary