

## NPC Special Budget Meeting:

Facilitator: Jerome

Notetaker: David

Participants: Jerome (LRNA), Walda (LRNA), Rose (Gender Justice), Monica (Res-Dev), David (MTA), Rob (USACAI), Alfredo (May First), Cheri (PPEHRC), Shamako (HHC), Dione (MMC), Mic (Global Fam), Carlton (AR), George (IPPN), Jackie (Coms-Tech), Rahmen (HHC), Danielle (AFGJ)

### 1. Budget Approval

Monica presented the proposal for a 6-month operating budget proposal (Jan 2014-June 2014): NOTE: This proposal was initiated in the Res-Dev Committee, then sent to ACT for discussion. The proposal is coming from both Res-Dev and ACT.

Total starting cash: \$67,900

Set aside for USSF3: \$50,000

Cash available for first six months for general operating: \$17,900

Proposing two staff positions - accountant (\$250/mo. - as needed) and national coordinator (\$1750/mo - .50 FTE)

Prioritize having a face-to-face NPC meeting before July (all the money is in travel but can be used for food, room, etc.).

Total for NPC from site travel and net revenue is \$4,195.

Money was taken out for video and documentation - ACT is seeing if video can be done in house for free and we will prioritize a documentation plan for USSF3 up front as well as try to get historic documentation completed. Evelyn (DAWG) will contact Detroit and Comms-Tech for footage and other materials for video and publication documentation from 2010 No work group

money but affinity group fundraising will continue to take place and could help pay for this.

This will create a zero (\$0) net revenue at the end of the 6 months unless more revenue is generated during this time.

Monica asked for clarifying questions as she presented each section. No questions. At the end of her presentation Jerome called for discussion. No one asked to be on stack. Jerome called for objections or concerns. None offered.

DECISION: Unanimous consensus to adopt this 6 month operating budget.

## 2. National Coordinator Contract Extension

David presented the proposal to extend Shamako's contract Jan 2014 through June 2014.  
NOTE: This proposal is coming from ACT.

David & Jerome (as co-chairs of Outreach/PMA working group(s) are currently the mentor/supervising team for Shamako. The key work for any national coordinator is to support Res-Dev, Coms-Tech, Outreach/PMA, so we are asking that a representative from Res-Dev and Coms-Tech join this collective. Points out that Shamako has been unpaid since Jan, and that the proposal includes retroactive backpay.

### DISCUSSION:

Jackie-- Notes that it is very awkward to have this conversation with SHamako on the call. Points out that she was formerly on ACT repping the Coms-Tech group, but had to step back due to her workload. Has a concern that we must hold one another accountable for the work that we are asking them to do, and has been frustrated because notes from both the ACT and NPC calls have not been posted onto the wiki pages since Dec. She believes there must be more involvement from the NPC in hiring a coordinator. Thinks that the coordinator should live in

location of one of our 2015 sites.

Jerome-- observes that notes have been taken and sent out, and absolutely agrees that they need to be posted onto the wiki.

Dione-- suggests we talk about this in terms of a skill set, and what is working and what is not working. This orients us into a more positive conversation. Notes that even hiring a coordinator was a difficult process, and wonders if it makes sense to spend our limited time looking for a new coordinator, or whether we should spend time talking about how to better support our current coordinator.

Alfredo-- Unconditionally supports extending Shamako's contract. Having said that, there are significant decisions/questions that must be addressed. First, we have not been sufficiently clear about the role of the coordinator. Shamako has struggled in this position because we have not been clear about how much political leadership we expect from our coordinator and how much the job is about logistical/administrative support. This puts Shamako in a dilemma, which we must resolve. Alfredo believes we need more political leadership from our coordinator. Alfredo respects the humility Shamako has exhibited so far, and encourages Shamako to step up with more confidence in providing the political leadership we need.

Jerome-- asks confirmation that Alfredo also supports having someone from Coms-Tech join the mentor/supervising team for the national coordinator position?

Alfredo-- confirms that there needs to be someone from Coms-Tech, but it isn't necessarily him.

Mic-- His own capacity is being strained as the new co-manager of KBOO radio, and respects and appreciates the conversation around capacity and accountability. To that end, notes the fact that since Shamako has not been paid that this might be affecting ability/enthusiasm to prioritize certain parts of the work.

Shamako-- wants to meet Alfredo's challenge for more political leadership. Notes that he has tried to upload notes, but frequently receives error messages. He has sent NPC and ACT

notes out, and still has a folder with them ready to upload. Points out that there have been series of crisis on NPC, and most of his time has been spent dealing with that. He acknowledges that political struggle is both important, and part of the job of a USSF Coordinator, but game-playing and administrative struggles don't have to be. The culture of how the NPC operates has not been conducive for productive political struggle or for getting the best out of people.

Jackie-- reiterates that this is an awkward position. She disagrees with Alfredo about the role of coordinator. It should be more administrative/logistical and allow leadership to emerge from NPC. The excuses for not having notes on wiki are not appropriate, as there is help available for solving this sorts of technical problems.

Jerome-- urges us not to get bogged down on details, but to stay focused on the big picture.

Shamako-- It is possible to provide both administrative support and political leadership. He also points out that the NPC itself is having a disagreement about what his job is and how to best do it.

George-- Appreciates that this is awkward, and expresses full confidence in Shamako and the work he has done to date. Believes we must draft a simple, measurable work plan that is pro-active and forward-looking rather than merely evaluate what has already happened.

Dione-- serves on both NPC, Res-Dev and Arts & Culture. Agrees that we need political struggle, but sometimes the conversations get down-right rude. There is a disconnect between the reality of the condition of our class and where we are trying to go. We should strive to conduct ourselves in a way that reflects the world we want. Wonders why it seems comfortable to put some things in an email but is uncomfortable to have a real-time conversation about the same thing. There seems to be a lot of dart throwing. Only because of 20 years of experience in organizing lets her look past it. Notes that many young people are probably not participating because of it.

Jackie-- is open to struggle. Does not fair to put anybody in the position that Shamako is in. Believes we need more input from the NPC. To that end she thinks we need a new Committee formed to evaluate Shamako's work as well as overall workplan of NPC.

Alfredo-- reiterates that he has never drawn and distinction between political work and administrative work, and is not doing so now. Observes that one thing that made Sylvia so good as a coordinator was her ability to gauge the mood of the NPC and to help move us towards consensus. Believes that we have a consensus to extend Shamako's contract.

Rahmen-- ask for clarification-- is this a 3 month or 6 month extension being discussed/proposed. (JEROME CLARIFIES 6 months). Rahmen points out that we are trained and propagandized to think and talk about employment situations in our society in a capitalist and exploitative manner. What is perceived as rudeness is sometimes just misunderstanding, and can sometimes be cleared up by asking clarifying questions.

David--points out that ACT is supposed to be the Committee holding coordinator (and all of us) accountable, and is supposed to be coordinating work of various working groups. It functions when the working groups are doing work AND when a rep from each working group comes onto the ACT calls. Notes that we have not even gotten to working group reports on our last 3 NPC calls, and that has NOT been Shamako's fault or responsibility. Thinks Shamako deserves a medal for how he has stayed present and positive, and deeply appreciates the leadership he has provided through these last several months.

Danielle-- hears 4 different conversations all at once. First, is a need to review/analyze our own process. Second, is a need to review/analyze our own culture. There's is a need to review/analyze the role of the coordinator. Fourth, is the question of extending Shamako's contract.

Jerome-- calls the question, and asks for objections. Jackie wants to add a proposal for re-evaluating in April. Jerome asks that she make that she make that proposal after we make this decision and that we take it up on the next call.

DECISION: Unanimous consensus to extend Shamako's contract Jan- June 2014 (retroactively).

Jackie restates request that we create a task force and tak it with responsibility to have a proposal for April NPC meeting to discuss overall role/function of the NPC coordinator.

