**2019 Conference Committee Minutes**

**13 January 2018**

**University of Winnipeg**

Present: Jim Naylor, Jim Mochoruk, Janis Theissen, Sharon Reilly, Paul Moist, Basia Sokal, Julie Guard, David Camfield, Victor Dobchuk, Jobb Arnold, Scott Price, Jeff Taylor (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Paul Jenkins, Rhonda Hinther, Krishna Lalbiharie

Called to order at 1.36pm

**Call for Papers**

The CFP closes on 1 February.

Thus far we have 1 roundtable and 4 or 5 individual paper submissions.

We have to get back on listservs and contacts to remind folks of deadline date.

Should we push back the CFP two or three weeks? We initially set the deadline for the SSHRC April deadline, but it is still possible to make that with a later date. Also, there are later SSHRC submission dates.

It was agreed that the new deadline date will be 28 February 2018.

We will meet on 3 March to assess the submissions; Jim will organize the submissions in advance of the meeting.

**Website**

It was noted that the website needs to be easier to find; Jim Naylor will talk to Krishna about this.

It was also questioned whether having numerals in the address is a problem; this will be raised with Krishna as well.

We have added a section to the website listing the committee members.

There will also be a photo essay added.

We will want links to other activities as part of the 1919 commemoration, including Mayworks.

**Keynotes**

It is still to be decided if we will have one or more than one.

It one, the preference is Wednesday, but it could be Thursday.

Report on discussions with CCPA:

The only CCPA option is Arundathi Roy, as she is the only speaker on our list that the CCPA is interested in; to make this work it will have to be part of a tour. This option continues to be pursued.

Another option:

Billy Bragg, sponsored with West End Cultural Centre. The hope is that he would give a concert and speak for us. But he is also being discussed by the central coordinating committee for a free concert in June. This will have to be sorted out.

Our other options to consider:

Barbara Ehrenreich, American writer on a variety of progressive subjects, including worker precarity

Phil Jennings, industrial workers international

Mike Davis, prolific author who could weave in an ecological dimension

Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, written on Black Lives Matter and other things

Jane McAlevey, can speak to the crisis of the labour movement in the 21th century

Bill Fletcher, former AFL-CIO Education Director, labour activist and author

Saru Jayaraman, leading the Fight for 15 in the USA

Selina Todd UK historian; author of We the People

Owen Jones, Guardian writer

China Mieville, author of “October” about 1917; author of “weird fiction”

Baldemar Velasquez, Farm Labour Organizing Committee

Dave Zirin, progressive American sports writer

Srecko Horvat, progressive Croation philosopher; active in establishing the Democracy in Europe Movement 2025, along with Yanis Varoufakis

The task for the next meeting (3 February) is for everyone to rank their top five from the thirteen names above; Paul Jenkins will set up an online instrument to rank the names in advance of the meeting.

**Roundtables**

We will talk about the roundtables at the next meeting as a matter of priority.

**Fundraising**

Discussion deferred to a subsequent meeting

**Friday Night**

We need to clarify if the MFL is holding a social that evening at Ukrainian Labour Temple. We can coordinate with the Fed as necessary.

**University of Winnipeg Room Bookings**

Jan will book rooms; Jim Naylor to coordinate with Jan.

**Other Business**

MFL is considering booking the Walker Theatre for 22 December 2018 to recreate the events of that day in 1918.

**Next Meetings**

3 February, 1.30 to 4.00

3 March, 1.30 to 4.00

Meeting adjourned at 3.40pm