

**Philadelphia, September 19-20, 2017**

## **Executive Committee Meeting: September 2017**

**WCI Executive Committee Members began arriving in Philadelphia the evening of Tuesday, September 19; everyone had arrived by Wednesday morning, September 20.**

We stayed at a lovely boutique hotel right in the heart of downtown Philadelphia in Rittenhouse Square, surrounded by restaurants, cafés and shops. Jacqueline Yates, Liaison to International Women's Club Philadelphia, and Julia Banks, WCI Administrative and Management Consultant, organized the visit to Philadelphia impeccably.

### **Wednesday, September 20**

On Wednesday, we attended the Annual International Women's Club Philadelphia Luncheon at the Merion Cricket Club. The members of IWC Philadelphia showed great camaraderie among themselves, and received us with exquisite hospitality. Helga Neubert, President to IWC Philadelphia, and Jacqueline Yates, Liaison to IWC Philadelphia, introduced WCI Executive Committee Members to all the ladies.

Caroline Dimmers, WCI Founder's Representative, addressed all the participants and remembered how happy her mother would have been with such a friendly gathering.

Marie Carr, Social WCI Conference Chair, invited everyone to attend the International WCI Biennial Conference in Washington, D.C., in May of 2018. In the afternoon, WCI Executive Committee Members met with Marie Carr to work on the preliminaries of the Conference.

### **Thursday, September 21**

On Thursday morning, the Executive Committee Meeting gave an opportunity to all those attending to discuss relevant issues with respect to the growth of WCI. At midday, some of the ladies of IWC Philadelphia Board met with the WCI Executive Committee. After sharing an informal lunch, the "WCI Initiative: Educating Women" was discussed. IWC Philadelphia Board Members commented on their vision and expertise on the education of women. The meeting was a true learning experience.

Michèle Haines accompanied some of us to the Barnes Foundation Art Museum, where we saw some very unique Impressionist paintings. She also took us on a walking tour in Philadelphia. Her delightful personality and her knowledge on art and history made learning about the city all that more enjoyable.

In the evenings, we had delicious meals at carefully chosen Philadelphia restaurants within walking distance from the hotel; this was an opportunity to grow in friendship.

*Report by Maria Fernanda Arduino, WCI President (2016-2019)*



*Photos selected by WCI Directory Chair, Isabel Etkin.*