

Leadership Change for the National Woman's Party at the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, DC— The National Woman's Party (NWP) announced today the departure of Executive Director Page Harrington this month. Deputy Director Jennifer Krafchik will assume the role of Acting Executive Director, effective June 15, 2017.

Harrington began as Executive Director at the then Sewall-Belmont House & Museum in 2008, and led both the museum and the NWP through significant transformations. Krafchik initially worked for the NWP from 2001 to 2012. In 2015 she rejoined the organization as Deputy Director, and is the leading expert in the NWP's history and archival collection.

"It has truly been an honor to be lead this historic organization with its unparalleled American story and archival collection, and to bring so many significant projects to fruition," said Harrington. "Now, with the Belmont Paul Equality National Monument now in the watchful care of the National Park Service, and the National Woman's Party once again focused on the continued quest for women's equality, I can begin to focus on other projects and work also important to me."

"The NWP board is grateful to Page for her many outstanding contributions during her tenure and looks forward to working with Jennifer during this interim period" says Lucy Calautti President of NWP Board of Directors. "The board is committed to guiding the NWP into a new century of outreach and inspiration, celebrating the upcoming Alice Award luncheon, playing a unique leadership role in the upcoming centennial of the vote, and ensuring new generations learn this inspiring story."

During her nine-year tenure as Executive Director, Harrington utilized her expertise in executive non-profit management, historic preservation, and women's history to elevate the museum's status—resulting in President Barack Obama designating the site as a National Monument in 2016.

Overseeing a major renovation of the 4-story historic house, Harrington worked with a \$2M grant from Institute for Museum and Library Services and National Park Service to make the house ADA accessible, upgraded fire and life safety systems, and installed new exhibition galleries to display the NWP's irreplaceable collection of suffrage picket banners, photos, and other rare materials never seen before. Her work to honor nationally recognized female leaders ranging from Sheila Johnson to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and Mrs. Laura Bush to Senator Barbara Mikulski was an annual "must attend" event, as the Alice Award Luncheon elevated not only the recipients achievements but also the continued work of the National Woman's Party. She also collaborated

with national philanthropic partners including the Kettering Foundation to explore 21st century methods of engaging public around American history themes, is a sought-after public speaker around women's history, and jointly with the League of Women Voters, co-founded the Women's Vote Centennial Initiative.

For more than sixty years, the trail-blazing National Woman's Party utilized the strategic location of the house to lobby for women's political, social, and economic equality. Today, visitors from around the world experience the site, named after Alice Paul and Alva Belmont, who led the successful campaign for the Nineteenth Amendment granting women to right to vote.

The National Woman's Party archival collection, in the Florence Bayard Hilles Research Library — the first feminist library in the nation —documents the work of the party, and is among the finest most complete collections of the suffrage and equal rights movements in the country.

Contacts:

http://nationalwomansparty.org/ https://www.nps.gov/bepa/index.htm

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