

Poetry Society of Tennessee

West Tennessee Chapter

Meeting Minutes for:

1/4/20

Number in Attendance:

12

Education/Activity

Panel Critique

- 12 poems submitted
- Russell Strauss, Bill Hill, Janet Qually, and Ann Carolyn Cates were panelists

News

- Two new members this month
- Janet submitted the treasurer's report via email; checkbook balance of approximately \$2019, and approximately 53 West Tennessee Members.

Business to be Accomplished/Action Items

- We need to start soliciting sponsorships for this year's festival/contest; Lori will send out a request with the January news
- With the passing of Jeanine Mah, Russell has suggested the following:
 - PST will sponsor a 2021 national contest in Jeanine's memory. Subject, music, any form.
 - Russell would like us to include one of Jeanine's poems at the beginning of *Tennessee Voices*, and send a copy of the anthology to the family. He will take a look through Jeanine's poetry and select a memorial poem.
 - He would like to reinstate this tradition of memorial poems in the anthology.
- Looking ahead to the October Festival, we discussed the possibility of moving locations:
 - Florence indicated that a location closer to midtown would be easier and may draw more attendees
 - Lori/Bill noted the connection with Southwest failed to draw any students, likely because the students are older and working
 - Lori will make a preliminary assessment of alternative options near midtown (e.g., Crosstown Concourse); Bill Hill will also ask his son whether he knows about meeting room rental
- Bill Hill is looking to tie PST-West Tennessee closer with north Mississippi groups:
 - he would like PST to support the youth poets, who are still trying to identify days/times to meet
 - the Christian Writers Conference is March 20-21