

PST Board Meeting Minutes 4/4/2020 — REVISION 2

Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Bill, Lori, Janet, Florence, Elizabeth

Ann Carolyn sent some comments in via email

See the attachment for some thoughts on Zoom. I will try to post this on the website and email around so that our membership has instructions...however, I need some feedback.

Zoom Poetry Readings

- Proposal to have 30 minute poetry readings on Zoom
- I would assume we will have enough time for 6-8 readers, assuming 4-5 minutes per reader
- Frequency to be determined — once per month to replace the readings at Café Eclectic?
- How do we want to determine order of readers? My suggestion:
 - designate a host for the readings
 - have everyone email a wish to read to the host
 - we take the first 6-8 readers
- If we find we're getting more than 6-8 readers per event, we can have a reading more frequently
- Do we want to open this to all PST chapters/members? I would say yes (it will develop closer ties)

Contests

- We discussed the need to keep contests going and keep poetry opportunities out there
- Florence had proposed doing inexpensive contests biweekly (e.g., \$5-10 for a winner); this may not be sustainable over the longer term if coronavirus goes through July/August
- Lori proposed an alternative contest approach
 - Have more frequent contests and using point totals to encourage submittals
 - Track participation and wins using a "leaderboard"
 - At the end of coronavirus, then award prizes
- Given the financial situation (and concerns about membership not providing funds for the summer/annual contest, given current economic crisis), suggest using this point approach through the summer instead of the summer/annual contest
- REVISION TO MINUTES — following subsequent discussion with Board members, we are going to have June/July/August contests instead
- Fund any awards out of the general treasury (though donations will be accepted)

Art & Poetry Collaboration

- Lori shared an idea she heard from a church member:
 - poets submit poems
 - local artists paint/prepare artwork inspired by the poems
- During the coronavirus period, we can solicit poems specifically for this
- We can then ask our artists to reach out to their art groups and see if there is interests
- Bill (and Elizabeth?) liked this idea

Festival — Location

- We discussed the options for Festival
- The contract for Church Health allows us to submit a fully-refundable \$100 deposit
- Everyone agreed to proceed with that
- Prior emails had indicated a preference for the boardroom, which is 45 people
- We will re-evaluate coronavirus, interest in festival, current economic crisis, and financials in August and decide whether we need to cancel.

Lori's note – I submitted the deposit and contract on 4/4/2020.

Festival — Contest

- Thank you to Florence for proof-reading the Contest brochure
- It is ready to send
- Lori can remove much of the festival information and say “more information pending”!
- Group agreed, that way we can get Festival contests published for poets who are “stuck at home”

Festival — Speaker

- We discussed our potential speakers (Lori and Bill had routed information on Nubia Yasin and Patricia Neely Dorsey)
- The group suggested that Lori call Nubia and see if she is interested in speaking
 - Nubia may appeal to younger poets in town
 - She may provide us with an opportunity to “speak” to new audiences
- Janet has also suggested local poet, Jessica Crenshaw

Information on all three poets can be found below.

Nubia Yasin (click at the bottom to hear her recite 3 poems)

<https://www.tedx-memphis.com/yasin>

Patricia Neely Dorsey

<https://www.facebook.com/patricia.neelydorsey>

Jessica Crenshaw

https://www.livingbreathingpoetry.com/?fbclid=IwAR1DQdEGLX6cs124_FkM5LAJ2vpoNixFfSlmEjOzaIZYDnffetglvG7uOfY