

PST-West Tennessee Board Meeting

January 25, 2021

Attendees: Lori Goetz, William Hill, Janet Qually, Elizabeth Shelley, Russell Strauss

(1) Financial Summary for the Anthology Task Force

- a. Lori summarized the cost differentials she identified
 - i. Russell suggested that we send an anthology to everyone who registers for Festival, rather than to every member
 - ii. Lori will pass this idea to the Committee
 - iii. Figure out who gets free books — we will still need to give some books as thank yous to outside judges, etc.
- b. Lori to forward the summary around to the PST-West Tennessee board
- c. Please send ideas for cost savings back to me
- d. Ideas will be discussed with the future PST-Executive Committee (representatives from all Chapters)

(2) Bylaw Update Report

- a. Lori updated the information on bylaws, etc.
 - i. Constitution/Bylaws have been under revision since August 2020
 - ii. Multiple revisions with comments from chapters
 - iii. Discussed with NFSPS legal counsel, Susan Chambers
 - iv. She recommended we seek Tennessee legal counsel, perhaps pro bono
- b. Pro bono options
 - i. Lori talked with a pro bono group in Nashville; she will donate money to register with the group
 - ii. Russell's cousin may have a recommendation — he will email contact info to Lori
 - iii. Janet's legal site — she will email contact info to Lori
 - iv. Elizabeth suggested talking to an accountant
- c. Russell suggested checking the wording regarding the Executive Committee
 - i. Suggest that rotate Chairmanship of Executive Committee to each Chapter every 2 years
- d. Lori would like to proceed with initiating Executive Committee functions, even with bylaw revisions pending, given upcoming planning and issues
 - i. proposed increase in dues
 - ii. planning for Festival Contest
 - iii. plan for virtual Festival
 - iv. Anthology decisions

(3) Suggestion for meetings next year

- a. Russell suggests meeting 12 months a year, alternate in person/Zoom
 - i. 6 meetings virtual, 6 meetings in person — would allow some of our local members who aren't tech savvy to still participate, but we could still engage with other chapters
 - ii. Bill — Possible to have a livestream meeting? Best of both worlds?
 - iii. if we still have readings, this would bump us up to 24 events/year
 - iv. Discussed, probably not sustainable
 1. in person, we had 5-10 people

- 2. in virtual meetings, we typically have less than 5 people from PST-West Tennessee
 - v. We will try to maintain the existing calendar through May 2021
 - vi. Readings
 - 1. Send calendar to Russell so he can phone people
 - b. While it is nice to have meetings/representatives from other chapters present, we aren't recruiting new members
 - i. we are getting website hits
 - ii. they have links to inquire/join us
 - iii. we have 2 semi-regular attendees to readings
 - iv. no interest in joining as members
 - c. Lori's suggestion — for next year (or two) we try to recruit members
 - i. next year (2021/2022) don't meet regularly (monthly at White Station Public Library)
 - ii. schedule with different libraries (4 times?) (Germantown, Collierville, Southaven, Benjamin Hooks, etc.)
 - iii. arrange workshop/reading at each one for 50+ age group
 - iv. try to recruit people in lieu of "regular" meetings
 - v. received positive feedback in meeting, but Lori would like feedback from the Board about this

(4) Officers/Nominating Committee

- a. PST-West Tennessee does not have a large group of active members
 - i. The Board, Monty, and Ruby — have been attending virtual meetings regularly
 - ii. Florence, Frances, Ann Carolyn — would only attend in person
 - iii. Reach out to Leslie and see if she would want to participate?
 - iv. Reach out to Randy (lives in Florida)?
 - v. Diane has been participating from Michigan
- b. Of active people
 - i. Janet can't continue for health reasons
 - ii. Elizabeth can't continue for health reasons
 - iii. Russell won't hold a position due to age
 - iv. Unlikely several others won't hold position due to age
- c. Options
 - i. Bill will consider President/Lori will consider Treasurer
 - ii. Bill to think about it, call Lori back to discuss, then Bill will call Monty/Ruby

(5) Other business

- a. Russell
 - i. PST sponsorship at Nationals
 - ii. In Honor of JoAn Howerton
 - iii. Subject: Family
- b. How are we handling Student Contests?
 - i. invited to April meeting
 - ii. link has already been provided
- c. Festival Contest Brochure
 - i. time to sponsor
 - ii. need to get sponsorship forms out in February