

Meeting: 8/3/19

In Attendance:

JoAn Howerton, Russell Strauss, Janet Qually, Florence Bruce, William Hill, Lori Goetz

Annual (Summer Contest)

- we have winners, will be announced at 8/14 reading
- Janet will figure out the funds allocated to contest awards
- Lori will make/bring certificates

Reading on 8/14

- come at 6 for dinner; welcome family members
- readings at 7
- need a sign-in sheet and request email/phone number for follow up (Lori will make a form)
 - do you want to have reminders about future readings and meetings?
- Russell will do follow up afterward

Applying for a grant for operating budget; apply on January 1

- Use to advertise
 - Also touch on adjacent states
- Speakers/workshops

JoAn is coordinating with middle-Tennessee for a new chapter

- may need several people to go to Nashville to discuss a new chapter
- JoAn is working with Ann Carolyn's son to connect with poets in the greater metro area

Re-write rules

- everyone agrees it is time to revisit the bylaws; they were originally written in 1953
- Russell will take first stab

Festival

- invite a reporter to festival?
 - Channel 5 (JoAn?)
- Advertising
 - library radio station (3 announcements) - Janet
 - Bill – advertising in MS
 - Memphis Magazine (Florence)
 - Janet – take flyers to library (Benjamin Hook)
 - put up at restaurants
 - call WKNO, WUMR, WEVL (Russell)
- Friday night dinner (JoAn)
 - meeting room at comfort inn
 - plan to cater in – central barbeque? check pricing
 - Wasserman student center; Union and Manassas (hot meal served)
- Lunch
 - cater Panera boxes
 - cater Subway tray JoAn will check pricing on tray for 30
 - cookies and drinks from Costco/Sam's? or just order everything through Subway?
 - breakfast Danish/coffee from Costco/Sam's

Anthology

- Revise approach – in the 2019/2020 Anthology, put the Summer contest first
- Publish the anthology in June (year ending in May)
 - take to Nationals
 - Do book signings locally
 - Tables at craft fairs to sell anthology?
 - annual book fair at Overton Square
 - booth at Art Walk
- Use anthology to market Festival, readings, and meetings; advertise to get new members

Nathan Brown on 11/17

- reading at JoAn's house
- probably 2-4 pm
- potluck
- publish on website with his bio
- advertise at the festival; have handout
- Selling point for membership; private poetry readings for members; Lori will update website

Future goals

- advertising on local cable TV networks
- PST increase interactions with Southaven Arts Council
- Byhalia Christian Writers
 - Poetry Workshop for Bill in the spring; March 21
- Outreach to more teachers
- open student contest beyond TN? JoAn will check to determine whether there are rules limiting student contest/Manningham to TN-only. Bill says there are teachers/students interested in participating in north MS.

Pending

- Secretary of State non-profit status due October 1; need membership list
- necessary to file income taxes