

OWFI BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, December 8, 2019

1:00 p.m.

Embassy Suites
1815 S. Meridian
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

Call to Order

1:18 p.m. OWFI Board Meeting Called to Order by President Shelley Pagach

Roll Call

Delegates attended representing 11 of 23 (24 w/MAL) affiliates in good standing.

Auditor Report

President Pagach announced CPA Barbara Henry is recovering and will attend the March OWFI Board Meeting. She will email the tax return and audit report.

Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to accept the September 8, 2019, Board Meeting minutes as corrected. The motion passed.

Officer and Staff Reports

President Shelley Pagach reported a change in the budget from the last meeting. The amount paid The Report editor, Ariel White, was changed from \$500 to \$600. Also, regarding the Budget, Grant Director Vivian Zabel said no “maybe” can be used in grants, and noted the wrong address has been used for five years. From Treasurer, Vinita Eggers, Line 27 regarding “Credit Card Fees” is redundant, as there is Line 32 - PayPal and Line 38 - Stripe. The conference budget will be resent.

Bags/Folders are yet to come. Need to check 4imprint.

President Pagach asked affiliates to sponsor the conference.

Conference Chair Aleasha Shelnett said she’s waiting to hear back from several invited speakers. She has twenty-two spots with nineteen speakers confirmed.

First Vice President Traci Ison Schafer noted she has twenty-nine judges confirmed, thirty-four categories, and needs five more judges. The judge application form is open now on the website.

Everything has been revamped, including the rules and judging criteria. The contest opens January 1, 2020, and ends February 1, 2020.

There are no category chairs this year. No snail mail books will be accepted.

The conference will be May 1 and 2, 2020.

Secretary Julia Mozingo advised the Board of a new affiliate – Tulsa Writers Syndicate.

Treasurer Vinita Eggers informed the Board November's financial reports are not available yet. Board members should have the October reports.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Financial Reports through October as sent. Motion passed.

Eggers also mentioned she has been working with NetSuite from Oracle creating a member-space-like area for OWFI's needs.

Grant Director Vivian Zabel said she'd appreciate having copies of letters sent to legislators. She's still working through grants lists, and asks we send grant possibilities to grants@owfi.org. Thanks for book donations last year. Considerations for this year's book donations are children's books to DHS as the donation site this year and nursing homes, large print editions.

Past President Staci Mauney has no information to report.

The Report editor, Ariel White, announced the next deadline will be February 7, 2020.

Webmaster Jack Burgos said the conference registration form is on the website. Max Eggers is his apprentice. Connor Orion will help with the volunteer page needed to test the contest forms.

Jack will create new codes for the conference for the officers and speakers.

Max helps take care of posting events and the webmaster@owfi.org email.

Parliamentarian Wayne Harris-Wyrick emailed the bylaw changes.

Committee Reports

Table Reservation Chair, Vickey Malone Kennedy, announced table reservations starts today, allowing for eight people per table.

Contest Sponsorship Chair, Vickey Malone Kennedy, said sponsorships were open now. The first sponsorship has already been received, with three pledges so far. The cost is \$105 to sponsor a full category, \$55 to sponsor a half category. Trophy awards are \$60 each. There's also the Crème de la Crème award \$500, and Crème de la Crème trophy \$70.

Costume Committee Chair will be Amy Shojai, and the theme "The Good, The Bad, The Silly."

Famous Authors Chair will be Jennifer McMurrain.

Fundraiser Chair will be Ariel White.

Pitch Room Chair will be Adrean Messmer

The conference book store will be Phantasmagoria Books and Records of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Adrean Messmer and Shannon Iwanski. Volunteers are needed after lunch.

Registration Chair, Vickey Malone Kennedy, needs volunteers. Last year's conference had 388 total attendees. The banquet max out is 425 attendees. The conference cost is \$175 for members, \$200 for nonmembers, \$125 for single day attendance, \$50 for each extra banquet ticket, \$20 for the Precon event, and \$25 for a box lunch event.

Scholarship Chair, Myloe Yeager, advised the board application submission for scholarships opens February 1, 2020, and closes March 1, 2020. Awardees will be notified by March 15 or earlier.

President Pagach indicated a Shepherd Chair is needed.

Virtual Workshop Chair, Adrean Messmer, announced the next workshop presenter will be new member and president of Tulsa Writers Syndicate Bre Lockhart, her topic - Scrivener. Messmer has other potential presenters lined up on varying topics.

New Business

Past President Staci Mauney presented the 2020 OWFI President Nomination as Aleasha Shelnett. Other nominations were called for, but none were forthcoming.

A motion was made and seconded for nominations to cease. The motion passed.

Aleasha Shelnett was elected unanimously as OWFI's 2020-2021 president.

Enid Writers Club announced a May 23, 2020, event with a luncheon at the Enid Champlin Mansion. The cost of the box lunch is \$10, and the speaker will be William Bernhardt.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by



Julia Mozingo
OWFI Secretary