

**Minutes of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets Board of Directors Meeting
May 1, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Jan Chronister at 10:15 AM. It was conducted via email because of cancellation of the Fellowship's Spring 2021 Conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to the meeting, written reports were circulated among board members for comment. The reports are posted on the Fellowship's website, <https://www.wfop.org/>.

Participants: Michael Belongie, Jan Chronister, Naomi Cochrane, Dennis Collier, Colleen Frentzel, Christina Kubasta, Sandra Lindow, Nate Reid, James Roberts, Kathleen Serley, Ed Werstein

Minutes of the Fall 2020 Board meeting were approved.

Additions to Agenda: none

Old Business

1. Updates on board decisions since Fall board meeting: Dennis Collier; approved
2. Sandra Lindow recognized as Honorary Lifetime Member in October 2020 (certificate was mailed in lieu of a presentation at conference)
3. \$75 donated to Ellen Kort Peace Park by the *Leaves of Peace* anthology project(funded by a \$300 special grant in 2020)

New Business

1. Treasurer's report: Colleen Frentzel; approved
2. Membership chair report: Naomi Cochran; approved
3. Webmaster report: Tori Grant Welhouse; approved
4. *Bramble* Report: Christina Kubasta; approved

Motion by Tori Grant Welhouse, seconded by Jan Chronister, to approve annual funding for *Bramble* in the amount of \$300, payable every spring. Approved 10-0.

5. Poet Laureate Commission Report: Ed Werstein; approved
6. Calendar Business Report: Jan Chronister (interim business manager); approved
7. 2022 Calendar editors: Jane Osypowski, Suzy Wedeward; approved
8. Archivist Report: Lewis Bosworth: no report
9. Student Contest report: Jeff Anderson; approved
10. 2021 Fall conference discussion/possible virtual event

Motion by Joan Johannes, seconded by Ed Werstein to cancel/postpone the fall conference and form a committee to decide on alternatives. Approved 9-0. This decision was made because the Jefferson Inn, Wausau, where the conference was to have been held, has offered to move our non-refundable, \$1,000 deposit to a future date if we cancel/postpone by the end of May.

A committee could identify possible program components, consider how to make it accessible and the audience it might attract, and determine the funds needed. Jan noted that the committee would decide on the extent and format of the fall event, and said we should be able to invest in a quality experience since we have not incurred the expense of a large conference since the fall of 2019. The committee will present its recommendations to the board for approval.

Christina offered to serve on the committee, and Kathleen Serley volunteered to set up the Zoom meeting for the group. Sandra Lindow said she could help with Zoom events.

11. Muse contest: Fred Kreutz; approved
12. Triad contest: Joan and Jeffrey Johannes; approved
13. Chapbook contest: Annette Gruneth; approved
14. Social Media: Kathrine Yets; approved
15. 75th anniversary observance: Michael Belongie; approved

Motion by Christina Kubasta, seconded by Naomi Cochran to form committee for 75th anniversary conference planning to assist Michael Belongie et. al. Approved 10-0.

Colleen Frentzel and Nate Reid volunteered to serve on the committee, and Sandra Lindow offered to help Yvette Flaten with writing and printing the updated history of the WFOP.

16. *Sheltering with Poems* anthology: Kathleen Serley and Steve Tomasko (fiscal); approved
17. Under 40: Nathan Reid; approved

Adjournment: motion by Naomi Cochran, seconded by Jan Chronister to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.