

WFOP Spring 2018 Conference  
General Meeting/Business  
Oshkosh, Saturday, April 28, 2018

Business meeting convenes at 8:38 am.

President Jan Chronister welcomes all; asks first-time WFOP conference-goers to stand.  
(Applause)

Minutes: Approval of fall conference 2017 minutes (on WFOP website, including board minutes). Chronister asks for any corrections to the minutes. If none, minutes stand approved as posted. Asks all regional VPs to stand. Their reports are in the conferees' packets. Treasurer Frenzler is recognized. Asks for questions about the budget. Zimmerman absent, Hess has written the Poet Laureate liaison report in Zimmerman's stead. Cochran absent, her membership report also in the folder. Chronister explains there is no individual reading of the reports to save time on the program for other activities. But questions encouraged. Chronister mentions the Board's thought and intention to vote at the next fall membership on levying a \$5 surcharge for those requesting/receiving a paper Museletter by US mail. Chronister says Board is trying to be good stewards and save approximately \$2,400 that is spent annually on print and postage costs. Again, if questions, see Chronister or VPs.

Calendar: Chronister introduces Carol Pemrich Hauser who has taken over as calendar business manager from Michael Farmer. Pemrich Hauser's report is in the folder. Round of applause for Fabu, the 2019 calendar editor. There are free copies available of 2019 calendar for contributors. Otherwise, \$9. Previous calendars are now gathering dust. \$1 apiece. A \$5 purchase will get WFOP members as many as wanted to take away – Chronister suggests people place these in nursing homes, doctors' offices, etc. VP James Roberts suggests putting these in Little Free Libraries. Hauser says there are no guidelines for 2020 calendar but these will be forthcoming. Katie Phillips asks about the absence of poet biographies in the calendar. Chronister says it was a money and space issue. This may be consistently done. Hauser says if you have concerns, suggestions, please contact her. Her contact information is on the website. Nancy Rafal emphasizes the importance of placing the calendars, removing them from storage. Chronister explains that as a cost saving move, Hauser will print the 2019 calendar on demand to avoid inventory backlog that plagued past calendars.

Facebook: 540 Facebook likes, according to Chronister who is its administrator.

Bramble: Kubasta says she is seeking input on Bramble and on one particular question – whether unsolicited submissions from WFOP members should be the criteria or whether to welcome unsolicited submissions from Wisconsin residents who are not WFOP members. An e-survey will also go out on this question. It is a new e-survey; members should ignore the fact that some of them voted on a previous one that had technical glitches. Submissions for Summer will begin in May, the issue edited by David Southward; edition will be without a theme. Chronister compliments Kubasta and Grant Welhouse.

Bosworth is student contest coordinator and archivist. Chronister reminds conferees that if they have any documents – such as meeting flyers sponsored by WFOP – a copy or the original should be sent (reimbursable postage costs) to Bosworth. Bosworth is also looking for someone to help him with photo-copying and filing, in Madison.

Board/Officer Recruitment: Mike Belongie, executive VP, asks for nominations for offices, members willing to come forward to run for office. There have never been two candidates for any one elected office, he says. Good news is we have good officers willing to assume a second term: Chronister and Frentzel. Belongie asks for volunteers for secretary and vice president candidates. Hess, who has served one term, has responsibilities with two other poetry organizations; Belongie has served in many offices over the years.

Second reading of by-law: Elections shall be by written, voice and electronic voting. Chronister calls for a vote. Change passes unanimously.

Board decisions: Chronister says there is a mini-grant program of \$100; and regional VP budgets of \$200 annually. The Board yesterday approved a special fund that will make \$300 available in addition regionally. Details to come. Members can still contact their VP for a mini-grant, copying Chronister and Frentzel. Board also voted to earmark \$500 for the Poet Laureate Commission and \$500 for Friends of Lorine Niedecker; and \$250 for Untitled Town Book and Author Festival. Good use of WFOP funds, Chronister says. (Applause)

November 2-3, 2018 in Stevens Point is the next conference location.

Silence in memory of deceased members.

Business meeting portion of conference adjourns at 9:17 am. Following motion and vote.