

Fall 2017 WFOP Board Minutes
11/10/2017

Present: Chronister, Grant-Welhouse, Cochran, Farmer, Belongie, Bergmann, Werstein, James Roberts, Kriesel, Jeff Johannes, Serley (MidCentral VP), Frentzel, Hess, Graveley, Austin, Roberts (co-VP of West Central, in waiting) and Lindow (West Central).

Called to order by Chronister at 3:32p.

Motion to approve minutes: Graveley; second, Cochran. Carries.

Old Business:

1. Calendar Report – James Roberts reports on submission announcement flyer from Fabu. December 1 deadline. 10 submissions so far from people who don't have email. Werstein says that's the same as last year. Roberts facilitating transfer of analog to digital submission.
2. Online voting: Mail Chimp tested by Welhouse. It works, she and Belongie say. Bergmann says Mail Chimp can also be used to send announcements and solicitations for any WFOP purpose. Bergmann says there should be an opt out of the emails but preliminary emails are not necessary. Belongie says there are two more conferences before WFOP slate of candidates needs to be voted on.

New Business:

1. Membership report: Cochran: Current membership is 517 as of October 1. 62 new members since April but 15 since then for a total of 77. (Non-renewals, 56.) Chronister says she thinks membership is growing, perhaps because Bramble is a membership recruiting tool. Report accepted by acclamation.
2. Treasurer's Report: Frentzel says she and Rafal will set up a new CD with the termination of the current CD's term. Summary total of all accounts: \$35,274.46. Chronister reports that fall conference will cost a bit more than usual but that the numbers have been crunched and it is affordable. Says 120 people have signed up for the conference, possibly a record high attendance level. \$3,800 for Barks fee plus air fare, etc. Frentzel says there are no issues. Most important is to have good speakers and benefit from them in multiple ways as a result. Lindow moves to approve; Belongie seconds. Motion carries.
3. Webmaster report – Welhouse says page views are up with welcome and member pages the most popular. Member pages were expanded because more people were accessing the pages. She is open to developing more content, such as audio/video files and news. Links to other organizations, such as FOLN, WPLC, Derleth Society.
4. Bramble report – Welhouse reports on behalf of Kubasta. Complimentary copies given to those in the edition. Also for sale at \$5. Next edition has no theme. Ahead of budget allotted (\$400) because the selling of the issues takes care of itself. Requests an additional \$400 for next year. Lindow suggests possibility for people to do evaluations, write fan letters. Hess suggests an evaluation form in each Bramble edition for people to return with comments. And also perhaps a page on Bramble web page. Discussion about whether Bramble is a good/not a good organ for WFOP. Belongie moves, Johannes

seconds about putting Bramble on the spring Board meeting for discussion. Hess moves to fund \$400 for Bramble, Ed seconds. Motion carries.

5. Chronister reports on Spring 2018 conference April 27-28 at Best Western in Oshkosh with Tiana Clark (Equilibrium, Wisconsin Institute of Creative Writing) and Heather Derr-Smith (Persea Books winner), \$500 each which also covers travel from Madison.
6. Proposed by-law change for online voting. "Elections shall be by written vote or by voice vote at the discretion of the Board." Article 8, Section 1. Belongie moves to include "electronic voting." Frentzel seconds. Motion carries. First reading will be at Saturday's meeting.
7. Poet Laureate Commission Report – Zimmerman's report accepted by acclamation
8. Calendar Business: Farmer: Balance is \$2,000 about. Need someone to take Farmer's place. Businessperson gets 50% of the profits but Farmer has never taken the payment in 13 years of service. Farmer has volunteered to ensure the transition. Possible north and south managers sharing the responsibility. Bergman says each year the editors and business manager should get quotes from different printers. Farmer says the process already involves getting three different quotes. Chronister says calendar is a part of the WFOP's tradition, and a lot of hard work.
9. Werstein Funding Request: Werstein attended Woodland Pattern gala. Poets laureate and past poets-laureate. Werstein was asked whether WFOP would sponsor an hour of the marathon end of January. The hour donation is \$350. We paid \$200 last year. Chronister says they are a beacon and it's OK if we don't get a lot back by way of new members. Belongie moves we support at \$350. Hess seconds. Suggestion is that WFOP people be included in the 3 pm hour. Motion carries.
10. Archivist Report: Bosworth absent due to illness. Roberts has volunteered to take archival material back to Madison. January 15 deadline for student contest. Bosworth has reported that he is starting to get submissions.
11. High school outreach coordinator – Anderson absent. No report.
12. Grant writer, proposal for: Chronister reports that it might be a useful addition to the Board or to WFOP. Chronister will ask for any volunteers, future resource.
13. Search for 2020 calendar editor. Chronister reports that she may have two volunteers. Says this is a very difficult job. How about if the responsibility were rotated from region to region? Bergmann says the responsibilities and skills needed are such that they couldn't/shouldn't be restricted to one region on a year-to-year schedule. Issue of whether Chronister has solicited editors too privately raised by Bergmann. Chronister replies that she believes this is the president's prerogative. Kriesel suggests an honorarium or stipend for the calendar position. Lindow offers to edit the calendar in two years. Welhouse recalls that there is also payment for artists/graphic artists, agreed on by the Board at an earlier meeting.

Other Business: Chronister mentions list of past/potential vendors of the calendar. Asks that Board share the list she's prepared.

Belongie moves to adjourn. Hess seconds. Motion carries.
Adjournment at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ronnie Hess, WFOP Secretary.