

Minutes

Appalachian Authors Guild

A Chapter of the Virginia Writer's Club

Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 13, 2017, Abingdon Library 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Time and Place:

The board members of the Appalachian Authors Guild met on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at the Washington County Public Library in Abingdon, Virginia. The meeting took place from 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

Attendance:

President Vicki Fletcher, Vice President J.C. Schweingrouber, Secretary Jami McDonald, Treasurer Jack Rose, and AAG members Linda Dobkins and Sylvia Nickels.

Call to Order:

President Vicki Fletcher called the meeting to order.

Reports:

- ✓ A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes of the board meeting on April 18, 2017, and the minutes of the general meeting on May 9, 2017, as distributed by secretary, Jami McDonald.
- ✓ Jack Rose, treasurer, reported:
 - Checks were written in April and May for \$170 (In Country), \$50 (speaker Justin Trout), and \$100 (SWCC Symposium). As of June 13, 2017, our checking account balance was \$856.27. Jack also had \$540 he needed to deposit into the account after our meeting, bringing the total account balance to approximately \$1396.27.
 - Jack wanted this message about the Virginia Highlands Festival sent to all AAG members. You may have gotten this in a previous email. If you have any more questions regarding the festival, please contact Jack.

Hello AAG, if you would like to sign up for the Virginia Highlands Festival, please let me know as quickly as possible. As some of you may know, the Virginia Highlands Festival is relocating to the former location across from the Barter Theater - on the Barter Green. This is probably a good move for the Festival Traffic - we should see an increase. There is one concern, however - parking. The Festival Committee has informed us that a parking lot behind the Washington County Court House will be available for Vendor Parking. They are hoping to have a shuttle available for transport to the Festival Grounds since it is several blocks away. There will be no street parking, nor parking in any of the adjoining business/church parking lots. Passes for Loading/Unloading at the Festival site will be provided. The Festival Committee has offered to refund our entry fee, but we would hope our participating members will be OK with this change. Also, our physical layout will be different from prior years. We are still

working on booth layout, but we really won't know for sure until we get there for setup. I think we will still be able to easily accommodate 5 authors per day - but again, we won't know for certain until we get there. We still have space available, except for the two Saturdays, and need authors for each day. We hope you will support this AAG arrangement.

- ✓ Reminder: If anyone has anything to add to our monthly tidings, please let Sylvia know. She would be more than happy to add your items. She can be reached at mscribe@aol.com
- ✓ We have received five new membership applications for Clyde Kessler, David Fenner, Betty Jamerson Reed, Ed Clark, and Tara Prater. We would like to welcome them to the Guild. As of the June 2017 board meeting, we also had 41 membership renewals for the year.
- ✓ The following dates/times/locations are for our remaining meetings in 2017. Lunch/Dinner will accompany the general meetings that are underlined, so please let Vicki know if you plan to attend. This will help the restaurants/caterers prepare for the appropriate number of guests.
 - August 8th – Abingdon Library, 1 pm – 3 pm, Board Meeting
 - September 12th – Lebanon Bonanza, 11:30am-1:30pm, with guest speaker Rita Quillen.
 - October 10th – Abingdon Library, 1 pm – 3 pm, Board Meeting
 - November 14th – Abingdon Shoney's, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, with guest speaker Leigh Ann Hoover. At this meeting, we will announce the 2018 officers.
- ✓ Vicki would like for members to know that we now have a Café Press site set up for fundraising purposes. The link, listed below, is also available on our website and our Facebook page. Please let Vicki know of any other items you would like to see available in the store.
<http://www.cafepress.com/aagstuff>.
- ✓ The annual AHW symposium will continue at Southwest Virginia Community College at least one more year (in honor of the 10th anniversary). Unfortunately, one of the grants the committee relied on was cut in half this year. Currently, symposium board members are looking into other sponsorships and funding. If anyone knows of any local businesses that might consider funding the symposium, please let Vicki know. Also, please let Vicki know if you are interested in serving on the board for the event. The board meets once a month from September to May (3rd Tuesday at 1 pm). Uncontrollable circumstances have forced some committee members to leave the committee, and it would be beneficial if they were replaced. It is crucial that we secure funds by the first meeting in September. It takes approximately \$10,000 to have the symposium with attendance fees only supporting around \$2000 of that fee. So, again, please let Vicki know if you think of any businesses or sponsors that might help us proceed with plans for the 2018 symposium.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by President Vicki Fletcher.

Respectfully submitted,

Jami McDonald, secretary