**Minutes**

Appalachian Authors Guild

A Chapter of the Virginia Writer’s Club

Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 2016, Abingdon Library 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**Time and Place:**

The board members of the Appalachian Authors Guild met on Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at the Washington County Public Library in Abingdon, Virginia. The meeting took place from 1:00-3:00 pm.

**Attendance:**

President Vicki Fletcher, Secretary Jami McDonald, and AAG members Linda Dobkins and Syliva Nickles.

**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 July 5, 2016, and the minutes of the general meeting on September 13, 2016, as distributed by secretary, Jami McDonald.
* Due to an unforeseen illness, Jack was unable to attend the meeting or compile the treasurer’s report. Jack was also unable to attend the September general meeting. At that meeting, Vicki presented the following information in his absence. We hope that Jack starts feeling better very soon.
* Checks were written in August for $50.00. As of September 1, 2016, our

checking account balance was $1,175.68.

* At the Virginia Highlands Festival, the Guild broke even on the cost of the rented spaces and the fees collected from the authors who were using those spaces. Approximately 375 books were sold among the 20 authors participating in the festival. The guild hopes more authors take advantage of this great selling opportunity next year.
* Appalachian Wine and Words, an event the Guild had considered hosting in October 2016, was canceled. We still hope to make this event happen in 2017. The board will keep members posted on news of this event as more preparations are made. Linda Dobkins has kindly offered to be the coordinator for this event. If you have any suggestions, concerns, or ideas, please feel free to contact her at [lhdobkins@gmail.com](mailto:lhdobkins@gmail.com).
* Sylvia reported that our website currently has a total of 17,800 hits. Many of the individuals who visit our site seem to be connecting with the Guild through two larger writers’ websites, *writersrelief.com* and *writersandeditors.com*. The Appalachian Authors Guild is listed on those websites under ‘local and regional organizations.’
* Unfortunately, Slyvia will no longer be in charge of the AAG website after 2016. The board would like to thank her for all of her hard work managing the site and compiling the report. If anyone is interested in taking over Sylvia’s duties as website administrator, please let President Vicki Fletcher know.
* We have received two new membership applications for Nada Kirby and Elizabeth Hirschman. We would like to welcome them to the Guild.
* The final guild meeting of 2016 will take place on November 8th at the Shoney’s in Abingdon at 11:30 am. We are excited to have Scott Pratt speaking at our final meeting of 2016. The 2017 officers will also be nominated and approved. We hope lots of members can attend.
* The Guild Board has decided we will retain our chapter status with the Virginia Writers Club. We will not, however, go through their treasury to maintain a non-profit status. Each member will pay their yearly dues as they have been to the VWC, with Linda Dobkins remaining our member-at-large, but we will handle our own account and work toward obtaining our individual non-profit status.
* The Virginia Writers Club is compiling an anthology of work by Virginia Writers in honor of their 100th anniversary.Members of the VWC are welcome to contribute pieces of nonfiction, fiction, and poetry to the collection. For more information, please visit the link listed below. The deadline for submissions is November 30, 2016.

anniversary.http://www.virginiawritersclub.org/Anniversary-Anthology

* Thanks to JC Schweingrouber for his continuing promotion and endorsement of AAG.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned by President Vicki Fletcher.

Respectfully submitted,

Jami McDonald, secretary