

Minutes

Appalachian Authors Guild
Board meeting/Writers Workshop
Tuesday, February 12th, 2019

Time and Place:

The bi-monthly meeting of the Appalachian Authors Guild was held on Tuesday, February 12th, 2019 at the Small Business Incubator. The board met from 12-1 pm and the writers workshop followed from 1-3 pm.

Attendance:

Board attendance: Vicki Fletcher, JC Schweingrouber, Linda Hoagland, and Addie Davis

Workshop attendance: Above plus Dan Swanson, Connie Wohlford, Greg Lilly, Larry Keith, David Fenner, and new member Elizabeth Champagne.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Vicki Fletcher.

Business:

- ✓ The minutes were not given from the January board meeting due to the illness of our secretary, Ellen Myatt
- ✓ Jack Rose was unable to attend due to illness but Vicki reported that we now have 31 renewals and 10 new members for 2019 after the \$20 blitz. Dues will be \$25 from February 13th to March 12th at our first general meeting. They will be \$30 after that. ****However, if you do not pay membership dues by March 12th, additional fees will be needed for you to take part in any events we plan for the year. This is to ensure that the treasury has enough for us to secure spaces at these events for our authors to take part in. We are looking for more venues for us. If you know of any events that would be a good fit for us, please let Vicki know.
- ✓ Sylvia Nickels was unable to attend but requested that any news for the Tidings be sent to her by next week as she is preparing it for our general meeting. Deadline to get this to her is Wednesday, February 20th. Be sure to send her any new books, awards for entries in contests you have won, and any news of your work. We love to hear about what our authors are up to.
- ✓ The board has agreed to sponsor the AAG Spring Fling this year. We hated to lose the symposium but hope this Writers Day will be a good fit. It will be held on Saturday, May 18th, 2019 at the Small Business Incubator in Abingdon, VA. Details are still being worked out but we hope to have more news about this very soon. Keep a lookout on the website under the Events tab. Early registration will be April 1st (no fooling) with final registration on May 1st.
- ✓ JC Schweingrouber also told us about the Appalachian Arts Festival that his organization, Foundation for Appalachian Advancement are working on. More details will follow as he updates me. This would be held in Lebanon at the Convention Center.
- ✓ Since there have only been 2 or 3 authors taking part in the restaurants, the board decided to disband that as a group project. You can still contact the restaurants personally and set up a time to sell books.

- ✓ The list of meetings for 2019 are as follows:
 - March 12th**- General meeting at Abingdon Shoney's from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm with Linda and Amber Icenhour as our guest speakers
 - April 9th**- Board meeting/Writers Workshop at Small Business Incubator from 12-3 pm. Linda Dobkins will be presenting the different types of publishing and their pros and cons.
 - May 14th**- General meeting at Abingdon Shoney's from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm with Joe Tennis as our guest speaker
 - June 11th**- Board meeting/Writers Workshop at Small Business Incubator from 12-3 pm. Greg Lilly will be leading our workshop.
 - July 9th**- General meeting at Abingdon Shoney's from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm with Damean Mathews as our guest speaker
 - August 13th**- Board meeting/Writers Workshop at Small Business Incubator from 12-3 pm. Kari Kilgore will be leading our workshop.
 - September 10th**- General meeting at Abingdon Shoney's from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm with Dr. Jesse Graves as our guest speaker
 - October 8th**- Board meeting/Writers Workshop at Small Business Incubator from 12-3 pm. Jim Glanville will be presenting at this workshop.
 - November 12th**- General meeting at Abingdon Shoney's from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. We will announce the officers for 2020 and have a writer's grab bag social. If you would like to take part in the grab bag, bring something for a writer (no more than \$5) to put in the exchange pile. We will draw numbers and #1 picks first. #2 can steal it or pick another gift. And so on and so forth until everyone has a gift. Lots of fun and fellowship with our authors to end the 2019 year. NO meetings in December and January.

Adjournment:

The business meeting was adjourned and the writers workshop began.

Speaker:

Vicki Fletcher, President and Program Chair, first told writers in attendance about the newly formed Highlands Writers Fair which is co-sponsored by the Highlands Festival Committee and the Friends of the Library. It will take place on Saturday, April 13th at the Abingdon Library.

Applications can be gotten online at <https://www.wcpl.net/highlands-writers-fair>. The application is due back to Greg Lilly by February 28th. All entries are juried so they can be sure to have a good variety of genres at this event. The address to send it is on the application.

Vicki then turned the meeting over to Linda Hoagland who led the class in writing prompts. This was such a fun time and every work was so different. It was nice to see all the different genres covered by this diverse group of writers.

Adjournment:

President Vicki Fletcher adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Hoagland, acting secretary