

Minutes

Appalachian Authors Guild
A Chapter of the Virginia Writers Guild
Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 13, 2019

Time and Place

The board meeting of the Appalachian Authors Guild was held on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at the Virginia Highlands Small Business Incubator from noon until 1 p.m.

Attendance

President Vicki Fletcher, J.C. Schweingrouber, Addie Davis, Linda Hoagland, and Ellen Myatt, Dan Swanson, and Jahmal Potter were present. Two guests, Neesa Maloney and Jason Adams, also attended. Our guest speaker was Kari Kilgore.

Call to Order

President Vicki Fletcher called the meeting to order.

Business

1. Minutes of the board meeting in July and general meeting in August were approved.
2. Treasurer's report: \$564 was noted as the beginning balance.
3. Tidings newsletter report- material is needed by the end of August for the next newsletter. Members are encouraged to submit items for publication.
4. Website report: Vicki Fletcher: Website is doing well.
5. Membership report: The list for 2019 reflects 55 members for the year. President Vicki reported there is no change at this time.
6. Events report: The Spring Fling for 2020 is scheduled for May 16th from 9 a.m. to either 3 or 4 p.m. President Vicki stated the schedule can be finalized when the board begins meeting in 2020. Dr. Jesse Graves and Tammy Robinson Smith have agreed to hold workshops. Two more are needed. Board members discussed some options.
7. President Vicki shared a financial breakdown of the 2019 Spring Fling:
We had a total of 20 register. Some sent checks and some paid with PayPal, which left AAG with less than \$20. Expenses were: Burke Print Shop for the brochures (\$41), Food City (\$76.28 after a \$75 gift card was given), Dunkin' Donuts for coffee (\$48), and Nancy's Fancy's

for lunch (\$250 for 20 lunches). Resources in the budget took care of what the registration didn't.

President Vicki said that now that we know how much is actually needed, we should do much better next year.

8. The upcoming fall book sale will be Saturday, October 12th from 10 am to 2 pm. As a venue, the Abingdon Arts Depot is interested in joining with us for this event, but President Vicki is waiting to hear about the cost and size of the area (how many authors it could accommodate) before we decide. The Incubator is free but is also out of the way for most people.

President Vicki said "The Arts Depot is right in town and may be a good choice for us to join them, but we will have to table that until the cost comes in. I hope to have it by our meeting time but wanted to go ahead and get this sent out to you."

In discussion, board members agreed that authors would pay a fee of \$10 each to participate. Table availability is on a "first come, first served" basis. October 4th is the deadline to sign up for tables and pay.

Ellen Myatt agreed to provide cookies and treats. It was also discussed that some authors might engage with the younger audience by dressing in costumes related to their books.

9. President Vicki plans to send out the cookbook templates after the November meeting. Contributors will have December - March to submit one (or more) entries. She would like to publish the book by May and have ready for our members to purchase them at cost and sell at their events. It will also be available on our website.
10. The slate of officers for the 2020 AAG are: President- Vicki Fletcher, Vice President- JC Schweingrouber, Treasurer- Jack Rose, Secretary- Ellen Myatt, Communications (Tidings) - Sylvia Nickels, Events Coordinator- Linda Hoagland, Website- Vicki Fletcher, Board members-at-large- Addie Davis and Dan Swanson.

11. President Vicki said she wants to get the resources page done for the website but has not had any time recently due to the number of projects she has had to complete. She has a few illustrators and now a freelance editor to add to it. Are any of you interested in being beta readers for other authors? I do hope to get this page up and going in the next couple of months (sooner if I can). Can you think of other people or services that we could include? I can contact them to see if it is okay to include them on the website. I will be "locking" this page for our members.
12. President Vicki closed the meeting by saying, "If I haven't told all of you how much I appreciate you, then shame on me. I do appreciate you and all you do for AAG and me. Thank you for keeping this wonderful group going and growing. "
13. Adjournment- Vicki Fletcher