

New Mexico State Poetry Society Board Meeting Minutes, June 4, 2017

President Bernadette Perez' Residence, Belen

Present: Bernadette Perez, President; Iris Gersh, Vice President; Teri Klein, Treasurer; Dino de Leyba, Secretary; Scott Wiggerman, Albuquerque Chair; Dante Berry, Rio Grande Valencia Poets Chair; John Casquarelli, Santa Fe Trails Chair; Jules Nyquist, Membership and 2017 State Convention Chair; Bonnie Rucobo, Children's Poetry Project Chair; Shirley Blackwell, Past President and National Federation of States Poetry Society Liaison

Absent: Quorum met

Bernadette welcomed us to her home. Poems read - Meeting called to order at 2:25 p.m.

- **NM State Poetry Society Convention April 29, 2017** - Jules reported on 2017 NM State Poetry Society Convention held in Albuquerque. Pre-convention registration 74, on-site registrations 7, new members 3, no shows 15, (81 minus 15=66 attendees) of those that registered on line, three registered as members – were later determined not to be on membership roster. Noted, registration process needs review
- **Natl Federation of States Poetry Society** – Website codes and links received by Bernadette, NFSPS invites state societies to send notice of events for their *Strofies* newsletter (need chapter liaisons for Strofies.) Those in attendance voted against sponsoring another of the annual contests
- **Children's Poetry Project** – Bonnie Rucobo will lead this project into the future – (unanimous board vote), Bonnie reports plans to incorporate children's poetry into book form, and a possible contest to determine entrants or title of book. Iris Gersh will co-chair this project
- **The Santa Fe Poetry Trails Chapter** is sponsoring Worlds through Words, a multicultural poetry event June 18 Jean Cocteau Cinema Santa Fe. The event is free of charge. Chapter requests sponsorship. The board suggest a re-submission of the sponsorship request to include a dollar amount (\$250) in exchange for mention of the NMSPS at the event, and a press release to distribute to membership. The Chapter offers use of a table for NMSPS brochures, and to display the NMSPS banner
- **Walking Rain Chapter** - requests name change. Board notes that group is less than five members – therefore request is a moot point
- **Positions Open**
 - Archive / Historian
 - Newsletter Editor Leader
 - Social Media Leader
 - State Convention Project Leader
 - Question as to who is maintaining NMSPS calendar of events and if Billy Brown is syncing up his calendar notifications with those of the NMSPS

- **National Federation of State Poetry Societies Student Award:** NMSPS would like NM to participate in the Student Award for 2018 (is one of fifty annual contests) Suggestion for possible lead: Manuel Gonzales, current Poet Laureate. His daughter might be a good fit to promote this contest (discuss at next meeting) This award is open only to students grades 9 thru 12, is sponsored by Kay Kinnaman Sims and Nancy Best.) No entry fee required. Need to discuss on how NMSPS can reach out to students in NM.
- **Board approves** \$250 sponsorship of Worlds Through Words, Jean Cocteau Cinema, Santa Fe (treasurer writes check post meeting)
- **Board approves** \$850 for the NMSPS President to attend the 2017 NFSPS Convention in Texas. (\$300 airfare, \$460 lodging and \$75 registration fee for NMSPS Board President Bernadette Perez (treasurer wrote check post meeting)
- **Board approves** \$75 delegate funding for Scott Wiggerman and Shirley Blackwell. Shirley declines. Scott to be reimbursed post event
 - **Note:** 2017 NFSPS Convention disbursements are for the 2017 board term, not meant to obligate future boards
- **Board approves** The Santa Fe Poetry Trails Chapter requests removal of the word “The” from the name of their group, to Santa Fe Poetry Trails
- VP Report – Iris will assist with Children’s Poetry Project (Poet in the Classroom)
- Treasurer’s Report – Checking \$2,867.11, Interest Earning \$11,117.22
- Secretary Report – providing the board minute report from last year
- Membership Report – 135
- Rio Grande Valencia Report – follows
- Santa Fe Trails Report - follows

Misc Notes: Brief discussion about NM State Poet Laureate initiative, and if funds were ever set aside to support - renewed interest to support exists, (Shirley Blackwell recalls funds being set aside for this project.

Suggestions: Schedule budget meeting and discuss possibility of on-line meetings

Next meeting: Tentative: Saturday August 19 or 26th Jules’ Playhouse Albuquerque

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dino de Leyba, 2017 Board Secretary