

NSN Board Meeting Agenda
Oct. 21, 2023
12:00 Noon CDT

Call to Order: Chair, Trudy Hanson

Present: Trudy Hanson, Sara DeBeer, Angela Lloyd, Delanna Reed, Margaret Read MacDonald, Linda Marchisio, Barry McWilliams, Lisa Overholser, Lisa Williams, Linda Yemoto. Staff: Dot Cleveland, Bob Johnson. Absent: Gary Kuntz, Rishi Nixon, Debra Olsen-Tolar.

Determination of Quorum: (According to the By-Laws) 8.5 Quorum. At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a majority of the number of Directors then in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. **(14 Board Members** are currently listed on the NSN website. Therefore, we need at least 8 board members present to conduct any business)

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Motion: That the minutes of the Sept 19, 2023 minutes be approved. Moved by Delanna Reed. 7 for. 1 abstained.

On the Calendar:

- Oct. 24-- 7 Degrees of Scary, 7 p.m. CDT (Zoom)
- Oct. 25 Haunted 4: More Stories for the Brave of Heart with Laura Packer, 8 to 9:30 p.m. (Online)
- Oct. 28--Co-working and Parallel Play for Storytellers, Writers, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Oct. 29 and 30--Spine-Tingling tales & times, 7 to 9 p.m., Phoenix Theatre
- Nov. 5-- Frank Basile Emerging Stories Premiere featuring Manón Voice, 4 to 5 p.m
- Nov.6--The Art and Craft of Deep Listening, 7 to 8:30 p.m. (Online)
- Nov. 14--Storytelling Yes You Can! 6 to 8 p.m. Noa Baum live on Zoom
- Nov. 16--Live at Caveat, NYC, 9:30 to 11:00 p.m.

Officer and Committee Reports:

- Treasurer's Report—Bob Johnson Available on website.

We are \$24,102 in the black for this year.

Bob will contact Connie Regan Blake about the Ray Hicks Memorial Fund.

Info on Sig monies will be sent quarterly to the Board.

Auction revenue was \$ 8. 045.

- Finance Committee Report—Rishi Nixon. Rishi was absent, Items were reported later in agenda.
- 2024 NSN Conference Update—Margaret Read MacDonald and Delanna Reed-- Committee has suggested we offer a discount to those whose proposals were not accepted to attend the conference. Committee withdrew this request.

57 programs were accepted for 2024 NSN Conference. 69 participants in these programs.

Panels will receive 4 paid early bird registrations. 2 was considered a more reasonable number, but the proposal announcement did not make that clear.

The Conference Committee requests that \$1000 be added to the conference budget to cover a caller and band to follow the Oracle Award Ceremony.

Registration opens January 20 and Early Bird closes May 15, 2024.

- New budget to be presented at Nov board meeting.
- Updates from SIGS
- ECO: Linda Yemoto, Claire Nolan—ECO is planning a Green Celebration. Jackson Gillman will host. ECO now has 50 members.
- Lisa Williams (SIO) No report.
- Lisa Overholser/Barry McWilliams (PRO). Insurance Event, to be held in January. The SIG might host some programs not used in the conference. Kindle direct publishing to put Production Guide up on Amazon. Ready by conference.
- Angela Lloyd (YES) YES is planning Story Labs for YES members, \$15 for non-members. The YES monthly coffee hour continues. They are considering a pre-conference day in spring. YES is reaching out to youth tellers to join their board. Note that Storytelling in Higher Education folded into YES a few years ago.

Angela suggests a meeting of NSN in January.

Oracle Awards Report by Angela: The day clocks are set back, proposals begin being accepted. This closes the day the clocks go back in March. Sara Juba Addison is chair of the Oracle Awards Committee.

Unfinished Business

- **Conference Attendance Stipends—recommendation from Conference and Finance Committee (Also, should we consider a special “hardship” discount for those desiring to attend conference but have limited means?). Presented by Linda Marchisio.**

The Finance Committee recommends a Katherine Tucker Wyndham Scholarship to be given to five individuals. Katherine gave the first \$5 to start fundraising, so this is in her honor. The award would cover registration and meals. And for non-members would also include free membership in NSN for one year. It is open to anyone to apply. Those receiving the award would be asked to write a reflection on their time at the conference, which might be published in the NSN newsletter. They would also be expected to volunteer at the conference. The cost of this is estimated to be \$2,535.

Motion: That NSN use monies from the 2023 Auction proceeds to fund the Kathryn Tucker Wyndham Scholarship Fund for the 2024 Annual NSN Conference. Moved by Trudy Hanson. Passed unanimously.

- **Lifetime Membership Update—are we ready to set a fee?**

Still being discussed.

- **Leadership Workshop for NSN Board members with ZOOT Velasco--Would we like to schedule this? Cost...purchase of 20 books. (hardback \$46.31 on Amazon).**

Exploring further. Board members to send lists of needs for board to Trudy.

Visit: Nonprofit Fund Raising Research presentation by Zoot Velasco

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yot3-YUp5d0>

**Zoot Velasco website
<https://4m-pact.org/>**

New Business:

- **Information about Tellabration**

The Tellabration packet is available on the NSN website. There is a link for organizations to register with Dot but all correspondence is directed to the Kansas City address. Should we change that?

Also, the packet indicates that a membership brochure is included. Do we have a membership brochure?

The website also says: *The TELLABRATION!™ logo was revised in August 2020 and will be updated each year in the future.* (Since I have been serving on the NSN Board, I am not aware of any logo updates.)

Only 2 Tellabration events are currently listed on the community calendar for 2023.

(It might be a good idea to have the PRO SIG look at the current promotion packet and edit as needed. There's not much information about using social media. All the advice given seems to be for traditional media outlets.)

Bob has run a report that shows there were only two contributions for Tellabration in 2022. (Please see the PDF that was included with the agenda).

Board actions:

Over time the original aim of Tellabration as a fundraiser for NSN has been lost.

We should reinstate the "Proclamation" giving the info about all Tellabration being held that night. Pro will work on updating the Tellabration booklet. Sara will write an article about Tellabration for the November newsletter.

- **Altering date for change of officers--Margaret has asked us to reconsider the timeline previously approved that was set for terms of office to begin in January.**

MRM will meet with By-Laws Committee to change the by-laws to call for board terms to end and begin at annual meeting in summer. For this one year, the board members whose terms would expire in January will serve until July. A past-president position might be created.

- **Changing date of November meeting from Tuesday to Monday (Because the meeting date falls the week of Thanksgiving, those traveling may be leaving on Tuesday.)** Not changed.
No November meeting. Next meeting December.

Suggestion for End of Year Letter. Appeal for money.

Finance Committee: Suggest we establish five donation levels with catch story-related names. Trudy will work on language. Dot will see if can work on website.

- **Other Concerns?**

Assignments:

Margaret: will prepare updated budget for Conference.

Linda Marchisio and committee: Will refine details of Wyndham Scholarship.

SIGS will send budgets for 2024 to Bob by December 31.

Trudy, Dot, and Committee: Will refine wording of donor levels and see how can work on the website.

PRO: Barry will ask if they would update the Tellabration booklet

Sara: Will write article about Tellabration for newsletter.

ALL: Send things board needs to improve to Trudy. Explore Zoot Velasco's work to see if we want to do a workshop with him.

Angela: Will confirm with Zoot the price of the books required for purchase in order to get a free workshop. And will discuss how many can take the workshop.

Trudy: Will work on end of year letter. It will include info on new donation levels. Will aim for end of November and Dot will email it.

**Adjournment Motion: That the meeting be adjourned. Moved by Delanna Reed.
Passed unanimously.**

Dates of NSN Board Meetings:
Saturday, December 16 at Noon