

## NSN Board Meeting Agenda

April 16, 2024

6:00 p.m. CDT

Call to Order: Chair, Trudy Hanson

Condolences to Lisa Overholser at the passing of her father.

Determination of Quorum: (According to the By-Laws)

Present: Sara deBeer, Trudy Hanson, Angela Lloyd, Margaret Read MacDonald, Barry McWilliams, Gwendolyn Napier, Rishi Nixon, Lisa Overholser, Delanna Reed, Lisa Williams.  
Staff: Dot Cleveland, Bob Johnson.

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. (13 Board Members are currently listed on the NSN website. Therefore, we need at least 7 board members present to conduct any business)

Review and Approval of Minutes:

**Motion: That the minutes of the March 16, 2024 board meeting be approved. Moved by Rishi Nixon. Passed unanimously.**

On the Calendar: (for Complete Details check the online NSN Event Calendar)

- ✧ April 17--How to Book 100 School Shows--Expert Panel, YES Story Lab, 7 p.m. CDT
- ✧ April 20--VITG Monthly Story Swap, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- ✧ April 24--SIO--Stories Help to Discover the Purpose of an Organization, 11 to 12:15 p.m. EDT
- ✧ April 27--Indy Raised told by Bill Harle, 7 to 9 p.m.
- ✧ April 27-28--Connie Regan-Blake's Story Treasures workshop, 9:30 to 4:00 p.m.
- ✧ May 5--SIO The Neuroscience of Effective Presentations-Using Storytelling to Enhance Learning, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT
- ✧ May 11--VITG Monthly Story Swap (online) 6:30 p.m.
- ✧ May 15-17 SIO-Historia Academy presents Stories Light Now, 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. EDT and 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. EDT
- ✧ May 16-18 --Shoals Storytelling Festival
- ✧ May 18--PRO Social Media Workshop, 1 p.m.

Officer and Committee Reports:

- President's Report about recent correspondence  
We received an inquiry from Meet NKY (Northern Kentucky) about the possibility of holding our storytelling conference there in the future. They provide services for hosting conferences. But we would need to have local storytelling organizations in the area to serve as a co-sponsor of the conference.

- Treasurer's Report—Bob Johnson
- Finance Committee Report— Lisa Overholser. Committee meets bi-monthly so no report this month.
- Fundraiser Update (Solar Eclipse glasses)--Lisa Overholser. The fundraiser broke even, around \$100 profit. But managed to place over 1500 NSN branded glasses in hands of folks...many not NSN members. Lisa sold 900 via Facebook marketplace, 550 within storytelling community, and many by hand in front of Starbucks!

- Oracle Awards Report by Angela Lloyd.

Current committee members including e-mail addresses:

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Juba Addison  | jubamae@aol.com                         |
| Ray Christian | raychristian@charter.net                |
| MaryGay Ducey | marygay5@yahoo.com                      |
| Mary Hamilton | marystory@earthlink.net                 |
| Angela Lloyd  | atlastproductions4angelalloyd@gmail.com |
| Cora Newcomb  | coranewcomb1@gmail.com                  |
| Toni Simmons  | toni@tonisimmons.com                    |

#### Report

The committee received and reviewed seven (7) ORACLE nomination applications and make the following recommendations:

Recommend for the Board's approval of (7 ) nominations accordingly:

|                         |                                |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Margaret Read MacDonald | Distinguished National Service |
| Dot Cleveland           | Distinguished National Service |

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Janice Del Negro | Lifetime Achievement |
|------------------|----------------------|

|                |                      |
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| Anne Shimojima | Circle of Excellence |
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| Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia<br>Leadership | Regional Service & |
|--|--------------------|

|                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Regina Stoops and Clair Hennessy | Regional Service & Leadership |
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|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Artem Mushin-Makedonskiy | International Story Bridge Award |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|

Artem Mushin-Makedonskiy was nominated anew for the 2024 cycle. He was awarded the International Story Bridge Award in 2021. Per the award rules, he is eligible to receive the award once. However, since he did not receive the actual award in 2021, the committee recommends that he be recognized and receive the award this year with the date retroactive.

[Alton Chung Circle of Excellence was added later, missed due to clerical error]

Angela Lloyd will MC the award ceremony.

- Report from April 7 meeting with SIGS--Sara deBeer

- 1) an expressed interest for a template for by-laws that each SIG could tweak
  - 2) leadership of SIG's should have free access events of any SIG
  - 3) SIG have certain needs that are shared needs:
    - a) someone who could make Canva's for all SIG's as needed  
(each SIG would play the designer out of their budget)
    - b) when planning events
      - 1) SIG would give info to designated graphic designer
      - 2) once graphic is created, SIG would give it to Dot who would disseminate it
      - 4) SIG meetings should occur within a week prior to the NSN meetings
- 2024 NSN Conference Update—Margaret Read MacDonald and Delanna Reed— 157 registered so far. Expect a rush of registration before Early Bird ends, so this seems on track. Need to let more folks know about opportunities to put ads in conference program. Rishi is working on advertising the ads. We hope that ads will pay for the program.

**Motion: That board minutes be available to membership only. And that videos no longer be posted. Videos will still be available to board members. Moved by Trudy Hanson, Nine for, 1 against. Motion passed.**

- NSN Conference—Report from Gwendolyn Napier (Note: Trudy, Margaret, Dot, and Rishi met with Gwen, Anne Wheeler, and Leslie Shelley in March and Margaret and Trudy met with the entire GSN Board on April 2. Leslie who will be co-chairing the 2025 conference has accepted Margaret's invitation to attend the 2024 conference.)

Unfinished Business

- Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning

The committee recommends the following Bylaws change:

**Motion: To amend the bylaws by adding: The Strategic Planning Committee will be composed of at least: one executive board member, two board members (including a SIG representative), two NSN members, and one external expert (This will be added under Article 9.2, (m). Moved by Trudy Hanson. Passed unanimously.**

Additionally, the Ad Hoc Committee has asked for a review of the current NSN Board Application form and the information requested, as well as the difference in the process for becoming a board member (Board Applicants who apply directly and those elected by SIGS). Not discussed.

- Report from Angela Lloyd about conversations she has had with Connie Regan Blake, Elizabeth Ellis and others about forming a small group to oversee growing the Ray Hicks fund and offering scholarships.
- Updated and Revised Tellabration Guidelines--Trudy and Dot (We also recommend that the PRO SIG develop a brief video that discusses choosing a venue, getting the word out, and managing the event.) Discussion of Tellabration document. Might include photo of J.G. Pinkerton.

Motion: That the revision be accepted. Tabled until May meeting to allow board chance to examine the document further.

Progress Report on Revision SIG Manual--Lisa Williams Being worked on. Boilerplate for By-laws being worked on at moment. [As indicated in the March minutes, this is under the guidance of Sara deBeer who oversees the SIG group.]

- Updates from SIGS

Linda Yemoto and Claire Nolan (ECO). Not present. Claire Nolan submitted:

We have about 60 members in our SIG.

March 30 Event – Stories for Earth Month. . Approximately 30 people attended. They received a recording of the event and ideas for ways they can use the stories told in their own Earth Day events.

April Event – ECO SIG Monthly Story Swap Wednesday April 10. Host – Fran Stallings. 7 ECO SIG Members attended.

May Event – ECO SIG Monthly Swap Tuesday May 14. Host Joanie Calem.

July – NSN Conference – ECO SIG Track Workshops and lots of opportunities to get outside and explore the environment during the Conference.

Claire Nolan and Linda Yemoto have been attending the SIG meetings. Sara deBeer will report on that.

Lisa Williams (SIO),

April 24--SIO- Artem Mushin-Makedonskiy- Stories Help to Discover the Purpose of an Organization, 11 to 12:15 p.m. EDT 32 signed up as of today. Offered free.

May 5 Jim Brule Neuroscience of Effective Presentations Using storytelling. 26 signed up as of today. 2-3:30 ET Offered free.

May 15-17 SIO-Artem Muskin-Makedonskiy- Historia Academy presents Stories Light Now, 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. EDT and 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. EDT

Feb 24 Ted Parkhurst presentation earned \$60. 11 attendees.

June General meeting planned. Two presentations in planning for August and October.

Lisa Overholser/Barry McWilliams (PRO)

Social Media workshop with Jessica Robinson and Carol Moore May 18 at 1 CT

Hope to get Production Manual up within a couple of weeks.

Fall and winter events in planning.

Board meeting moved to 3 CT on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Angela Lloyd (YES) Story Lab on April 17.

## **New Business**

Fractional Executive Proposal--Rishi Nixon

1. To name Dot Cleveland as NSN's Chief Operating Officer on a fractional basis with flexible part-time hours,
2. To set her base compensation *this year* at \$10,000 (already budgeted, this would just make sure she hits the full amount),
3. And to award Dot an end-of-year bonus of one-tenth NSN's net income (profit) in FY24, if that is a positive number.

Dot feels a more pressing need is for NSN to hire a Marketing Director. No money in budget for this yet, we need to fill board position for marketing.

Title will be changed from Bookkeeper.

Rishi withdrew his motion.

- New Services available to NSN Members (Canva and NSN Store in operation) --Dot Cleveland

Store in operation again after being down for some time. Many expired items removed.

Canva Pro is offered to non-profits for free. SIGS can be on our CANVA as part of NSN team.

Lisa Williams suggested that National Storytelling Network create an agreement form that gives National Storytelling Network permission to upload and sell events (ie. Presentations, panel discussions, workshops) of the presenter (s) on the NSN website page.

Lisa Williams suggested that prior events should not be uploaded and sold on NSN store website page, because attendees of prior events were not made aware of its distribution/selling on the NSN store website page. [Note that in cases such as Fringe performances and others, the presenters knew that their work would be sold on the NSN webpage.]

Workshops can be made just to those who registered for an event...not put in store.

Put on ads for future programs/workshops "This is going to be recorded for those who purchase a ticket."

- Board Member recommendations for nominations for Vice Chair-Elect (Election to be held at the 2024 Storytelling Conference)

May 18 board meeting moved to 3 pm central.

**Assignments:**

Trudy will meet with Exec committee to discuss ways to facilitate marketing.

Trudy will research laws re publishing minutes in Missouri.

Margaret will update by-laws and send to Dot for posting.

All board members will read proposed Tellabration document.

Delanna and the Fundraising Committee will sell ads for the program.

**Adjournment Motion: That the meeting be adjourned. Moved by Bob Johnson. Passed unanimously.**

NSN Board Meetings for 2024 (All times are Central Time Zone.)

- Tuesday, April 16 at 6:00 pm
- Saturday, May 18 at 3:00 pm. NOTE CHANGE OF TIME
- Tuesday, June 18 at 6:00 pm
- Saturday, July 20 at 12:00 noon (weekend after conference)
- Tuesday, August 20 at 6:00 pm
- Saturday September 21 at 12:00 noon
- Tuesday, October 15 at 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 19 at 6:00 pm

**Saturday, December 21 at 12:00 noon**