



**National Storytelling Network  
May 2026 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

[storynet.org/about-nsn/board-meeting-information/](http://storynet.org/about-nsn/board-meeting-information/)  
Tuesday, May 26th, 2026 • 2:30–4:30 pm Central Time

**I. Call to Order Meeting opened at 2:30 CT**

Chair Rishi Nixon

Present: Karin Amano, Melissa Fees, Caleb Hubbard, Margaret Read MacDonald, Barry McWilliams, Gwendolyn Napier, Rishi Nixon, Leslie Shelley, Emily Stamets. Conference Co-Chair Trudy Hansen. Staff: Dot Cleveland, Robert Johnson

**II. Review and Approval of February, March, April 2026 Board Meeting Minutes**

Secretary Margaret Read MacDonald

**Motion: That the board meeting minutes of February, March, and April 2026 be approved. Moved by Caleb Hubbard. Passed unanimously.**

**III. Chair's Report**

We have 7 pages of program ads for \$3,725, which will pay for program. NABS took out an ad, reciprocating our ad for their program.

July 13-16 2028 are the confirmed dates for the NSN Conference at the Ogden, Utah Eccles Conference Center.

The board agreed that Rishi should write once more to ISC, suggesting that our two organizations release a statement of collaboration, without suggesting any specific areas.

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Bob Johnson

See NSN website.

**V. Texas 2026 Conference Committee Report**

Conference Co-Chairs Caleb Hubbard and Trudy Hanson

122 are registered as of today. The Eco field trip is nearly filled, 50 reserved of 56 seats. The schedule is finalized. Program almost completed. Volunteers organized, thanks to Emily. Tejas is sponsoring tote bags. Caleb is in contact with other groups for sponsors of water bottles. Caleb's University is sponsoring swag for the conference. The university requires a waiver signed by all registrants.

Texas the Musical will be featured.

A golf cart for the mobility challenged will be making rounds between dorms and the Fine Arts Center.

17 virtual tickets are sold to date.

\$46,000 revenue for conference so far.

## **VI. Report on National Storytelling Network Awards Program**

Awards will be given in these categories:

National Storytelling Network Book Award.

National Storytelling Network Honor Book.

National Storytelling Network Media Award

National Storytelling Network Media Honor.

National Storytelling Network Resource Award.

National Storytelling Network Resource Honor.

National Storytelling Network Children's Book Award.

National Storytelling Network Children's Book Honor.

National Storytelling Network Picture Book Award.

National Storytelling Network Picture Book Honor.

The National Storytelling Network Awards for Book Award, Media Award, and Resource Award will be judged by a panel of four, including: 1. A librarian. 2. An academic. 3. A recording artist. 4. The NSN Awards Program Chair.

The National Storytelling Awards for Children's Books and Picture Books will be judged by a panel of three, including: 1. A librarian. 2. An educator. 3. The NSN Awards Program Chair.

## **VII. Vote to Add Ambassador for Emerging Storytellers Volunteer Position to Leadership Guide**

**Motion: That the Ambassador for Emerging Storytellers position be included in the leadership guide, once it has been fleshed out in writing and understood. Moved by Caleb Hubbard. Passed unanimously.**

The Ambassador for Emerging Storytellers:

- Is an experienced storyteller
- Corresponds with emerging storytellers interested in engaging with storytelling and/or with NSN
- Has an understanding of 1) NSN programs, 2) regional and national storytelling organizations, and 3) resources for emerging storytellers
- Recruited by the volunteer coordinator

## **VIII. Discussion on 2026 General Membership Meeting Agenda.**

Q & A will take place at the conference, but not during the General Membership Meeting.

**IX. Discussion on Membership Committee Initiatives.** 3-5 members recruited so far: Lois Boyd Prevost, Vecepia Robinson, Caleb Hubbard.

They will be tasked with:

- Survey the membership on NSN benefits.
- Examine current membership benefits and recommend new initiatives.
- Work with NSN's PR and publishing directors on projects to recruit new members
- Create new partnerships and maintain existing ones begun this year, with NSN membership organizations.
- Personal outreach work to help win back members who have left NSN.

**X. Environmental Storytelling Special Interest Group (ECO SIG) Report**

Directors Linda Yemoto and Claire Nolan No report.

**XI. Producers & Organizers Special Interest Group (PRO SIG) Report**

Directors Lisa Overholser and Barry McWilliams. No report.

**XII. Storytelling in Organizations Special Interest Group (SIO SIG) Report**

Director Lisa Williams. Report sent after meeting:

I am delighted to welcome **Alicia Dongjoo Bang** and **Zenobia Judd-Williams** as our new Directors of Storytelling In Organizations. Their expertise, passion, and dedication to our community will undoubtedly bring fresh perspectives and innovative strategies to our initiatives.

In addition to our new Directors, I would also like to extend a warm welcome to the members who have accepted the position of SIO Board of Members. **Rituparna Ghosh, Vinod Krishna, and Artem Mushin-Makendonskiy** have generously agreed to contribute their time, skills, and insights to guide the organization forward. Their leadership and collaborative spirit will be invaluable as we continue to shape the future of Storytelling In Organizations. These esteemed individuals will be commencing their three-year terms, effective July 2026, and we are confident that their contributions will significantly enhance SIO's mission of fostering excellence in storytelling within organizations. Please join me in extending a warm congratulations to all the newly appointed Directors and Board Members.

**XIII. Youth-Educators-Storytellers Special Interest Group (YES SIG) Report**

Director Karin Amano

Story lab by Noa Baum was held in April. Story Crossroads and YES exchange 3 free tickets. Story Crossroads members attended and may join YES and NSN. They have 127 YES members at present time. Formerly had 150. June 11 will be a StoryLab with

Deshawn Edwards Once Upon a Lesson: Discover How Classic Fairy Tales can be reimagined to teach STEM cyber security. May 31 is the deadline for the Angela Lloyd Sunbrella Award applications.

Ribbons for SIG's will be available for conference. More ribbons for Sunbrella are left from last year.

**XIII. Adjournment**

Chair Rishi Nixon Meeting adjourned at 4.26pm CT.



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- Staffed by the volunteer coordinator

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Director Karin Amano

**XIV. Adjournment**

Chair Rishi Nixon

# National Storytelling Network Statement of Financial Position

05/25/26

Accrual Basis

As of April 30, 2026

	Apr 30, 26	Apr 30, 25
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		
1018 · US Bank General Account	30,153	23,358
1168 · US Bank Business Savings	160,603	140,447
1169 · Savings		
1077 · Ray Hicks Legacy Project	6,599	6,599
<b>Total 1169 · Savings</b>	6,599	6,599
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	197,355	170,404
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>		
1110 · Accounts Receivable	949	1,455
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	949	1,455
<b>Other Current Assets</b>		
1250 · Undeposited Funds	5,969	2,824
1440 · Prepaid Conference Expenses	-25	-225
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	5,944	2,599
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	204,248	174,458
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
1645 · Machinery & Equipment	3,769	3,769
1760 · Accumulated Depreciation	-3,769	-3,769
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	0	0
<b>Other Assets</b>		
1800 · Other long-term assets		
1805 · CCU CD	65,922	63,387
<b>Total 1800 · Other long-term assets</b>	65,922	63,387
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	65,922	63,387
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>270,170</b>	<b>237,844</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
<b>Credit Cards</b>		
1013 · US Bank Credit Card	368	191
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	368	191
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>		
2400 · Payroll Liabilities	12	0
2450 · Payroll Taxes Payable		
2452 · FIT Withheld Payable	227	11
2453 · FICA Payable-Employee	79	42
2454 · FICA Payable-Company	79	42
2455 · Medicare Payable-Employee	18	10
2456 · Medicare Payable-Company	18	10
2460 · KC Earnings Tax	0	0
2461 · MO Withholding	8	8
2463 · MN Withheld Tax	11	20
2450 · Payroll Taxes Payable - Other	-230	0
<b>Total 2450 · Payroll Taxes Payable</b>	210	143

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	Apr 30, 26	Apr 30, 25
2520 · Payable for Ray Hicks Legacy Pj	6,599	6,599
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>6,821</b>	<b>6,742</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>7,189</b>	<b>6,933</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>7,189</b>	<b>6,933</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	83,169	35,832
3000 · Net Assets W/O Donor Restrictns		
3050 · Net Assets w/o Board Restrict.	126,280	126,280
3100 · Board Restricted Net Assets		
3102 · Due to SIGs		
3102i · Welcome Seed Funds (SIG)	1,129	1,129
3102g · Due to ECO (SIG)	3,415	3,415
3102c · Due to PRO (SIG)	6,128	6,128
3102d · Due to SIO (SIG)	8,382	8,382
3102e · Due to YES (SIG)	21,012	21,012
<b>Total 3102 · Due to SIGs</b>	<b>40,066</b>	<b>40,066</b>
<b>Total 3100 · Board Restricted Net Assets</b>	<b>40,066</b>	<b>40,066</b>
<b>Total 3000 · Net Assets W/O Donor Restrictns</b>	<b>166,346</b>	<b>166,346</b>
3300 · Net Assets With Donor Restrictns		
3301 · Use restricted net assets		
4012 · Scholarship Grants	4,644	4,644
3325 · Member Grant Restricted Funds	11,277	11,277
<b>Total 3301 · Use restricted net assets</b>	<b>15,921</b>	<b>15,921</b>
<b>Total 3300 · Net Assets With Donor Restrictns</b>	<b>15,921</b>	<b>15,921</b>
3998 · Current Year Earnings	-35,832	-35,832
3999 · Prior Year Earnings	-0	-0
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>33,377</b>	<b>48,645</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>262,980</b>	<b>230,912</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>270,170</b>	<b>237,844</b>

**National Storytelling Network**  
**Income and Expenses Compared to Budget**  
 January through April 2026

Ordinary Income/Expense	Jan - Apr 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>Income</b>			
4000 · Contributed support			
4010 · Indiv/business contribution	3,504	3,304	200
<b>Total 4000 · Contributed support</b>	<b>3,504</b>	<b>3,304</b>	<b>200</b>
5000 · Earned revenues			
5112 · Teller Page Listings-Storynet	1,040	1,180	-140
5150 · Auction Proceeds	4,190	0	4,190
5180 · Conference & Other Program Fees	37,929	34,090	3,839
5210 · Membership dues - individuals	7,778	8,893	-1,115
5220 · Assessments & dues - orgs	2,050	1,200	850
5310 · Interest-savings/short-term inv	1,117	1,441	-323
5450 · Advertising revenues	765	3,695	-2,930
5477 · SMP Fees Earned	0	50	-50
5490 · Miscellaneous revenue	163	350	-187
<b>Total 5000 · Earned revenues</b>	<b>55,031</b>	<b>50,898</b>	<b>4,134</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>58,535</b>	<b>54,201</b>	<b>4,334</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>58,535</b>	<b>54,201</b>	<b>4,334</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
7200 · Salaries & related expenses			
7220 · Salaries & wages - other	2,706	6,667	-3,961
7250 · Payroll taxes	207	510	-303
<b>Total 7200 · Salaries &amp; related expenses</b>	<b>2,913</b>	<b>7,177</b>	<b>-4,264</b>
7500 · Other personnel expenses			
7540 · Professional fees - other	200		
<b>Total 7500 · Other personnel expenses</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>
8100 · Non-personnel expenses			
8105 · Computer Equipment & Software	199	943	-743
8110 · Supplies	0	66	-66
8130 · Telephone & telecommunications	171	167	4
8140 · Postage, shipping, delivery	11	0	11
8199 · Non-Personnel Other	185		
<b>Total 8100 · Non-personnel expenses</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>1,175</b>	<b>-608</b>
8300 · Travel & meetings expenses			
8310 · Travel	1,243	1,000	243
8320 · Conference, convention, meeting	12,595	475	12,120
8321 · Presenter payout	800	1,095	-295
<b>Total 8300 · Travel &amp; meetings expenses</b>	<b>14,639</b>	<b>2,570</b>	<b>12,069</b>
8500 · Misc expenses			
8516 · Marketing Expense	2,175	3,000	-825
8520 · Insurance - non-employee	1,069	3,243	-2,174
8530 · Membership dues - organization	0	200	-200
8560 · Outside computer svcs/Website	441	667	-226
8561 · Website Enhancement	1,800	1,667	133
<b>Total 8500 · Misc expenses</b>	<b>5,484</b>	<b>8,776</b>	<b>-3,292</b>

# National Storytelling Network

## Income and Expenses Compared to Budget

05/25/26

Accrual Basis

January through April 2026

	<u>Jan - Apr 26</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>
8600 · Business expenses			
8640 · Bank Fees	1,356	1,354	2
<b>Total 8600 · Business expenses</b>	<u>1,356</u>	<u>1,354</u>	<u>2</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>25,159</u>	<u>21,052</u>	<u>4,106</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>33,377</u>	<u>33,149</u>	<u>228</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>33,377</u></u>	<u><u>33,149</u></u>	<u><u>228</u></u>

## National Storytelling Network

## Profit &amp; Loss

January through April 2026

Accrual Basis

	226-ECO (220-SIGS)	227-Gen Story (220-SIGS)	222-PRO (220-SIGS)	224-SIO (220-SIGS)	225-Angela Loy... (225-YES)	225-YES - Other (225-YES)	Total 225-YES (220-SIGS)	Total 220-SIGS (100-Program Ser...	Total 100-Program...	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense										
Income										
4000 - Contributed support										
4010 - Indiv/business contribution	0	0	0	0	200	0	200	200	200	200
Total 4000 - Contributed support	0	0	0	0	200	0	200	200	200	200
5000 - Earned revenues										
5150 - Conferences & Other Program Fees	0	0	25	0	0	120	120	145	145	145
5210 - Membership dues - Individuals	250	850	550	550	0	850	850	3,050	3,050	3,050
5490 - Miscellaneous revenue	0	0	47	-225	0	0	0	-178	-178	-178
Total 5000 - Earned revenues	250	850	622	325	0	970	970	3,017	3,017	3,017
Total Income	250	850	622	325	200	970	1,170	3,217	3,217	3,217
Gross Profit	250	850	622	325	200	970	1,170	3,217	3,217	3,217
Expense										
8100 - Non-personnel expenses										
8199 - Non-Personnel Other	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	50	50
Total 8100 - Non-personnel expenses	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	50	50
8300 - Travel & meetings expenses										
8321 - Presenter payout	0	0	0	200	0	600	600	800	800	800
Total 8300 - Travel & meetings expenses	0	0	0	200	0	600	600	800	800	800
Total Expense	0	0	50	200	0	600	600	850	850	850
Net Ordinary Income	250	850	572	125	200	370	570	2,367	2,367	2,367
Net Income	250	850	572	125	200	370	570	2,367	2,367	2,367