

North Florida Poetry Hub Chapter - Minutes

Location: Jacksonville, Florida, Zoom platform

Date: April 30, 2022

Time: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Attendees: Ruth Van Alstine, Sally Constain, Sharon Scholl, Cynthia Jackson, Shani Hall, Chris Kastle, Sipra Roy, Paula Babadi, Diane Rabideau-Wise

Agenda items

Minutes from March meeting were approved and accepted as written by attending members. (Paula Babadi motioned to accept the minutes and Sally Constain seconded the motion).

Old Business Reviewed, see Meeting Agenda.

POET'S PEN PROJECT: Cynthia Butler-Jackson is working on her "The Poets Pen" Vol 12. If any member is interested in beginning a Poets Pen volume, please contact Ruth Van Alstine.

FIRST COAST POETRY SHOWCASE: In our overview it was overwhelmingly agreed that the group wished to repeat the Showcase again next year, start pre-planning earlier and consider a location such as the Deerwood Library Branch, which is the Southeast Jacksonville branch on 10599 Deerwood Park Blvd. Jacksonville, as it is a more central location and would be perhaps a better location for better attendance.

AUTHOR'S SHOWCASE WITH WOMEN WRITING FOR (a) CHANGE: We are participating as a club in this Author's showcase and will be selling books April 14th in Riverside. Many of the details were discussed in depth at this meeting. Interested members who have published books please contact Ruth or Chris Kastle. We are using the same system as we did in the Poetry Showcase. There will be a Zoom call scheduled May 7th 3-4 pm to discuss details of the event.

"Create-Submit-Celebrate" Goals Project. Bonnie L. Boucek has still not been heard from so continue to send your reports to Ruth, who will serve as the Record Keeper until we hear from Bonnie. Please make sure to send your report in before the end-of-day on the 5th of each month. Signup is open and will remain open until June 30, 2022. Contact Ruth Van Alstine to sign up.

New Business:

1. **FSPA 2022 Poetry Contest** is now open. I am attaching the details in with these minutes, or they can be found on the FSPA website or in the March-April OPAP issue. To help the members in preparing their packets of poems for entry to the contest Ruth will once again host the Workshop that explains in detail how to submit to contests and in particular her process for the FSPA Contest. This will happen in June, stay tuned for the announcement of date/time.
2. Ruth is going to create a **signup** sheet for those people who would like to **volunteer** to take a turn **facilitating our regular Open Forum and Poetry Hub workshops**. It would be better to have an advance schedule set up rather than waiting until a few days before each one. Thank you.
3. **A Future Projects Committee has been formed to brainstorm ideas for new projects and events.** Sally Constain, Paula Babadi and Diane Rabideau-Wise and Ruth Van Alstine volunteered to be on the committee. If you would like to be on this committee, or have an idea

for the club, please contact Ruth. We will be meeting via zoom for planning sessions, dates/times to be determined.

4. The time to start writing our **holiday card poems** is coming up in June. Start thinking and writing now. Remember the poems are to be lighthearted, uplifting and not associated with any single holiday or season. That’s why it’s great to write them in the summer, when our days are occupied with sunshine and bright skies!
5. **Any project ideas are always welcome.**

Action items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
The Poet’s Pen	Ruth Van Alstine / Poets who are involved in their Poet’s Pen volumes	None	Ruth Van Alstine working with Cynthia. Anyone else interested contact Ruth
NFPH/FSPA Bookmarks	Ruth Van Alstine/members	On-going	Being distributed and is on-going - contact Ruth for more bookmarks
“Create-Submit-Celebrate”	Enrolled Participants	Enrollment until June 30 th 2022	Active - Contact RuthVan Alstine with any questions and to submit monthly totals.
Calling for new projects new committee “ Future Projects Committee ” (better name forthcoming?)	All Chapter Members	On-going	Join our newly formed Committee “ Future Projects ” and/or contact Ruth Van Alstine with your ideas

After sharing our new “*Member Publishing Update*” stories from the “Create-Submit-Celebrate” program we participated in a poetry prompt of Cherry Blossoms and Spring with a poetry share and open mic for National Poetry Month as the program session of the Chapter meeting. It was enjoyable for all in attendance.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 28 2 - 3:30 pm.



North Florida Poetry Hub is sponsored by Hope-At-Hand, a local non-profit organization providing art and poetry therapy sessions to vulnerable and at-risk youth populations to facilitate healing and personal growth for children and adolescents in the Northeast Florida area.

