

North Florida Poetry Hub Chapter - Minutes

Location: Jacksonville, Florida, Zoom platform

Date: February 26, 2022

Time: 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Attendees: Ruth Van Alstine, Shutta Crum, Sally Constain, Pat Krause, Paula Babadi, Cynthia Jackson, Sharon Scholl, Suzanne Austin-Hill, Shani Hall, Bonnie L Boucek, Christen, Tanjena Islam

Agenda items

Minutes from January meeting were approved and accepted as written by attending members.

Old Business Reviewed, see Meeting Agenda.

POET'S PEN PROJECT: We are up to Volume 11 with Shani Hall, Stephen Stokes, Paula Babadi Sharon Scholl working on their Poets Pen books/Zines. Memhet Gunes is considering. **Poet's Pen printing proofs should be completed before the end of March. When you take your files to the print shop is up to you, but you should have your books finished before the end of March if you want to be in the Showcase.**

POET'S PEN SHOWCASE: We have secured a venue. The showcase will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Arlington Expw in Jacksonville, Florida April 10 2-4 pm.

- Shutta Crum, Sharon Scholl and Ruth Van Alstine are on the planning committee.
- Shani is writing up short bio's and collecting headshots with Poet's Pen images for a dedicated page on our Chapter website. These will also be used in a possible brochure to be handed out at the Showcase.
- Chris has undertaken the inventory listing for the book sales.
- More details and planning will happen at a **Zoom meeting later in the month, around the 16th to get everyone on the same page.**

This is a CHAPTER project and I hope everyone is excited and willing to do what it takes to make it an AWESOME event! It will require all of us to pull this off! From making sure we take care of the details to getting the word out, and then SHOWING UP!

With everyone's effort and help it will FUN and EXCITING!

"Create-Submit-Celebrate" Goals Project. Bonnie L. Boucek is the Record Keeper and Ruth Van Alstine will keep attendance records for non-members in the program. 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. **JAX Poetry Fest** known details of festival were shared. Steffani Fletcher from Hope At Hand has asked for volunteers to contact them to help out with both events at the JAX Poetry Fest and also small handcraft projects for their organization to help with their workshop and PR materials. You can reach Hope At Hand through Ashlie Hufford at ashlie@hopeathand.org.

2. **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.
3. **The Park Poems of America** are due to be submitted before March 7th deadline. Sample poems are attached with these minutes. The poems can not be longer than 4 lines and must be specifically about nature. You can submit 2 poems.
4. We will be adding on a regular agenda item to the Chapter meeting, **“Member Publishing Update”**, as suggested by Shani Hall. Thank you, Shani for your initiative and awesome idea! It will be an opportunity for members to share their success in getting published during the past month, and to celebrate together. What a great idea!
5. **Any project ideas are always welcome.**

Action items

The Poet’s Pen

Owner(s)

Ruth Van Alstine /
Poets who are
involved in their
Poet’s Pen volumes

Deadline

None

Status

Ruth Van Alstine
working with
Several poets (those
who are in process,
please contact Ruth
to set up Zoom
sessions and review
Poets Pen
requirements for
your volumes)

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 30th 2022

Active - Contact
Bonnie L. Boucek for
any issues regarding
Record Keeping.
Ruth Van Alstine for
admin questions.

Calling for new projects

All Chapter
Members

On-going

Contact Ruth Van
Alstine

PROGRAM: Suzanne Austin-Hill gave a wonderful presentation for Black History Month, enjoyed by all. Thank you, Suzanne, for giving us your time and introducing us to several poets that we hadn’t know about before. Awesome!

Next meeting is scheduled for March 26 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.

