

North Florida Poetry Hub Chapter - Minutes

Location: Jacksonville, Florida, Zoom platform

Date: April 24, 2024

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

Attendees: Ruth Van Alstine, Suzanne Austin-Hill, Shutta Crum, Chris Kastle, Sipra Roy, Richard, Beth Ramos, Patricia Krause, William, Jennifer Dracos-Tice

Chris Kastle moved to approve the February minutes as written, Suzanne Austin-Hill seconded.

Old Business Reviewed as follows:

Old Business:

1. The Poetry Showcase event was reviewed. Everything went as planned and it was a successful event with readings going as planned, photos were taken and sales table running smoothly. It was discussed that next year we could do a more concerted effort to fund-raise monies to contribute towards the high school poetry contest monetary awards and help out **A Gathering of Poets** who have been footing the bill for the past three years. Thank you all!
2. **We did not discuss how we were going to choose readers for next year's showcase. This will be tabled for the May chapter meeting.**
3. The Poetry Scroll project was reviewed. It was completed with 9 nursing homes receiving scrolls, 1200 scrolls in total.
4. The Cheery poem deadline is April 15th, Paula Babadi, Howard Moon and Ruth Van Alstine are the editors.
5. Postcard Poem Campaign July 4-August. Registration is \$15. The program was reviewed and interested members were encouraged to visit the website and sign up individually. We will have a Zoom session for those individual members who have signed up to share their experiences and help each other with the program.
6. The Planning Committee was again brought up to update the calendar and come up with possible new projects. I will schedule a Zoom session for interested parties.

New Business:

1. Create an office for a secretary to assist in writing minutes from the meeting. There was no interest in doing this as everyone was too busy. Beth suggested people take turns. I don't think this would work as I would be training the person each time and this would take as much or more time than it would just to write the minutes myself.

Action items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
The Poet's Pen	Ruth Van Alstine / Poets who are involved in their Poet's Pen volumes	None	Two people waiting to publish their books
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 open until July 1	Active - Contact Ruth
Open Forum/Poetry Hub workshop facilitators	All Members	On-going	Sign up/volunteer to be a workshop facilitator for these workshops.
Poetry Video on Member Bio page	All Members	On-going	Active - Contact Ruth
West Coast Student Poetry Contest	All Members	On-going	Contact Suzanne Austin-Hill for information on how to work on this project.
Project Planning Committee	All Members	On-going	Contact Ruth to be on this Committee and contribute ideas/introduce Projects-programs for the Chapter

PROGRAM: After the meeting, we had a brief presentation on the history of National Poetry Month and then an open mic for poetry reading.

The next Chapter meeting will be May 25th, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 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.

