

**Ozarks Writers League
Board Meeting Minutes
7:00 p.m., February 8, 2023, via Zoom**

Attendees: Ronda Del Boccio, Duke Pennell, Cindy McIntyre, Larry Wood, Veda Boyd Jones, Mary Lane, Annie Smith, and Rochelle Wisoff Fields.

1. Ronda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Approval of the agenda and minutes made by unanimous consent.
3. Treasurer's Report (Veda Boyd Jones) Newest report at \$7438.40
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Webmaster (Duke) Send Duke any updates to include on the website. This consists of any kudos.
 - b. Membership (Mary Lane) A vote to offer Diane Yates a life OWL membership was taken. All were in favor. Mary Lane will send out membership dues when the conference nears.
 - c. Writing Contest (Larry), Many sponsors committed to the same categories and have paid. Still looking for a few more sponsors and categories to fill.
 - d. Youth Writing Contest (Cindy) Cindy visited the Richland school to deliver three winning certificates. Information on the contests and winners is complete. A photo has been shared with online newspapers (Dixon, Richland). In addition, Cindy sent Duke information for the website.
 - e. Art Contest (Rochelle) This year's theme: Reflections. Still looking for a judge. One to consider-Madison Woods.
 - f. Historian (Linda) no report.
 - g. Fundraising:
 - a.) Discussed placing a jar near the coffee pot during the conference
 - b.) Bring a friend to the conference for a discount (raises membership too)
 - c.) Making Kraft-covered OWL journals \$5
 - d.) Selling leftover bags and T-shirts
 - h. Social Media (Ronda) Sharing updates about mixers, contests, and conferences.
 - i. Nominating Committee: no report.
 - j. Newsletter: John Cawfield coordinating with Duke and Ronda to incorporate information into the website.
5. Old Business

From the OWL survey, we gathered the Fall Conference at the Honeysuckle Inn on October 28-29 went well. The feedback from OWLs: great location, good energy, people were friendly and welcoming, and they learned a lot.

Questions we still have for the Spring Conference:

 - A.) Do we need snacks? Duke is in favor of water, coffee, and minor hospitality. Donate as you wish was the consensus.
 - B.) What door prizes do we want? Share ideas. We currently have an extra large owl mug. Some fundraising and door prize items overlap.
 - C.) Reminder-Make your reservations now for the Spring Conference.
6. New Business
 - A. Spring Conference is set for April 28-29, 2023, at the Honeysuckle Inn.

- B. On Friday, April 27, dinner will be at 6 p.m. Little Hacienda (near the hotel), followed by optional ice-breaker games back at the conference room at the hotel at 8 p.m. Music provided by Jan.
 - C. Encourage the OWL members to take photos during the conference and get involved. Share where they can send their pictures as they come in.
 - D. Conference lineup: Publisher's Panel-"Putting Your Best Foot Forward." Annie L. Smith to talk about writing love scenes. Interactive Sessions in the afternoon, such as character and conflict building. The first page's critique was also mentioned as successful and an option to consider bringing back.
7. The next Zoom meeting will be Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Please continue to use the same link.
 8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.