

FLORIDA STATE POETS ASSOCIATION
Spring General Membership Meeting Minutes
Holiday Inn, Melbourne Viera
April 21, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call of Chapters was taken:

Big Bend Poets 0
Live Poets of Daytona Beach 0
New river Poets 6
North Florida Poetry Hub 0
Orlando Area Poets 4
Osceola 2
Poetry for the Love of it 0
Space Coast 4
Sunshine Poets 1
Third dimension Poets of Broward 0
Tomoka Poets 4
Members at Large 4

The newly-forming chapter, Space Coast Poets, convention hosts, was recognized and thanked for the fantastic job it has done with the convention.

New River Poets was recognized and thanks for sponsoring our Picnic in the Park.

The minutes of the last general meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Our bank balance is \$3,100.00. We are now accepting Pay Pal. We plan to add a button to the website and get a chip reader by the Fall Conference. We will be sponsoring a contest at the National level, as we have done the past few years. We have upgraded to QuickBooks 2018 for our recordkeeping. If anyone would like to discuss the financials, or has any concerns, she should feel free to contact me.

Anthology Committee: No report. Mary Ann has requirements for Cadence.

Contest: Mary Rogers Grantham reported that she has 27 judges ready to go and the submission period is open May first to July 14th 2018.

Historian: Elaine Person urges people to put Cadence in libraries.

Membership: We have 208 members, 206 paid, two complimentary. We have 11 chapters. Space Coast will be an official chapter shortly.

Newsletter: OPAP no report

Youth Report: We had 611 entries this year. Top poems were submitted to the Manningham Trust contest sponsored by NFSPS and five were among the 20 winners. This is Janet's last year as chair and she is sure that Carolyn Scully and the Orlando Area Chapter will do a good job as her successor.

Old Business:

Pay Pal: Robyn gave instructions on how to use Pay Pal.

We have sponsored a contest at the National competition.

Speakers Bureau: Al Rocheleau is heading it. He wants to reach every chapter and they have all received information on the speakers bureau. He and Peter Gordon did a program at the North Florida Poetry Hub. Leslie Halpern and Andrew Jarvis will do a program for Osceola chapter in May. He is working on one for Big Bend perhaps with Poetry for the love of it in May or June. Chapters are encouraged to open the meetings to the public.

The programs are provided at no cost to the chapter a stipend is encouraged.

New Chapters: We have three new chapters this year: Osceola, Space Coast, and Big Bend.

Website: We still have no Webmaster.

Dina Tanner of New River Poets has volunteered.

It was suggested we create a fund-raising mechanism to play for our communications such as accepting ads for OPAP.

Dina will consult with her sister to figure out what a reasonable professional webmaster should cost.

Nominating Committee:

Joe Cavanaugh, Alice Friedman and B.J. Alligood were elected as Nominating Committee. Alice Friedman is chair.

We are looking for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Nominations were accepted from the floor.

Current nominees are

President, Al Rocheleau

Vice president, Mary Marcelle

Secretary, Leslie Halpern

Treasurer, Robyn Weinbaum

Upcoming Conventions

The Greater Orlando and Osceola Chapters have volunteered to host a one-day Spring Fling.

Fall Convention will be at Daytona Beach October 12 to 14 2018, hosted by Tomoka Poets.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Alice R. Friedman