

AMWA Chapter 14 Officers Meeting

Minutes

September 11, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm by chapter president, Rebecca Bigelow. Eight members were present, including Swarna Mandali, Heather McNeill, Lisa Balbes, Magdalena Berry, Joanne McAndrews, and Karry Smith.

Events in St. Louis

The St. Louis TechWriteSTL Freelance group had its annual dinner the previous week with at least 22 people in attendance (a record). The invitation to the dinner had been forwarded to the editorial freelance association and a couple of journalistic associations. Half of those in attendance were brand-new freelancers, and a lively discussion was held. Joanne reported that 12 in attendance were AMWA members; 9 were not members of AMWA. The next meeting is scheduled for 13 November 2018, which will be a discussion of best and worst books people have read in 2018.

Events in Kansas City

Swarna reported that the group held a social on August 2, 2018. A contact at the University of Missouri with 30 years of writing experience is considering doing a 3-part webinar, with the first installment on November 13, 2018, and additional webinars in February and April 2019. Swarna just met with this faculty members this morning. We discussed putting this information about the offering in any upcoming newsletters. Swarna inquired what honorarium would we provide? With past outside speakers, we have done \$50 and paid for their meal after the dinner. Natalie commented that it takes a lot of preparation to put a 3-part series together, perhaps we could charge the attendees \$10 and give those funds to the speaker? Related to this discussion, we reported our financials as \$2,103.81 in checking and \$19,803.10 in savings. The group agreed to \$50 honorarium and further discussion.

Events in Nebraska

Rebecca Bigelow reported a small get-together was held on August 15, 2018 and 4 people attended. Anna happened to know a medical graphic designer who came to the meeting and discussed what she does – augmented reality with medical illustrations. The image is 2D on paper, but you put a device over the top of it and it pops out and you can rotate it. It was a small

group but a very informational meeting. The Nebraska group is hoping to do something again in October.

Events in Iowa

Natalie reported on the Iowa group. There were initially 7 members in Iowa, but 1 moved away and 1 dropped AMWA. Natalie has been trying to organize a dinner and it has been difficult to find a date that works for everyone. At the first meeting, we plan to brainstorm for functions like speaker vents, webinars, in-person events. Getting a speaker for just 3-4 members doesn't make much sense.

Rebecca commented that this was a good segue into discussing how to get member together. She noted that in Nebraska, the same situation exists (few members; difficult to have get-togethers). There are many possibilities out there for connecting, including Facebook Live, Facebook Groups, etc.

Karry asked what else are people interested in learning about? Members indicated interest in the following:

- Improve marketing
- Make business grow
- Legal stuff about forming an LLC, sole proprietorship, etc.

We discussed potentially getting a project to connect virtually off the ground and using the Kansas City webinar as a stepping point to see if this would work for the chapter. Swarna will finalize information and send along by next Monday.

Treasurer's update

Leslie was not in attendance. The treasurer's report was discussed earlier in the meeting and is as follows: \$2,103.81 in checking and \$19,803.10 in savings

Chapter Advisory Council

Heather has served for a year now and Leslie will be taking over in November 2018; both will attend the national meeting. They announced that on the last call with chapter advisory, AMWA headquarters has designed a new resource that will be part of the website with templates for chapter leaders and members, videos, and other helpful resources. It is not yet live.

Newsletter

Magdalena Berry will be retiring in May 2019 and was going to continue doing the newsletter, but has no reason to continue active AMWA membership. Magdalena has a replacement (Susan) lined up to start in December.

New Members

Heather O'Neill reported we have 4 new members. Current membership is approximately 85 members, including those in the grace period and expiring.

Deliverables to National

These include the activities report that Linda put together and the treasury report. We submitted the first draft of bylaws in time for the first review; comments pending.

Housekeeping

Karry (Secretary) will not be able to attend the meeting on November 6. Another chapter officer will need to take meeting minutes.

Chapter Officer Meetings—The next regular Chapter Officers Call will be Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 2:00 pm.

Minutes—The September 2018 minutes were approved.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Signed,

Karry Smith, PhD, MPH

Secretary, AMWA Chapter 14