

AMWA Mid-America Chapter Meeting of May 11, 2021

Call to order: 2:00 pm

Attendees: Rebecca, Joanne, Leslie, Crystal, Heather, Liz, and Raesa

Change to previous minutes suggested: Edit date of next meeting from March 9 to May 11. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Events in St. Louis

May 11, 2021: "Contract Writing and Negotiations" presented by Veronika Redmann. No. of attendees: 17 (13 AMWA members)

July 12, 2021: "Buckle up for Fast Tech, Slow Write, and the Royalty Rip-Off" presented by Louise Noeth. 'Landspeed' Louise is a technical writer and motor sports enthusiast who will be talking about her experience self-publishing her books on motor sports.

September 30, 2021: 15th Anniversary dinner to be held in-person at CJ Muggs in Webster Groves (for vaccinated people). Ruth Thaler-Carter will be talking about public speaking tips

November 3, 2021: 5th Annual Best and Worst Books of 2021 led by Leslie Neistadt based on input from TechWriteSTL members

Events in Kansas City

Nothing to report

Events in Nebraska/Chapter-wide Webinar

April 22, 2021: Liz Leight talked about her career path as a medical writer from freelance to Pharma. Webinar was well-attended and had an active Q&A session.

Treasurer's Report

Leslie provided an update on bank balances.

Decision was made to move some of the money from Checking into Savings, given there aren't any major expenditures coming up.

Newsletter

Susan sent by e-mail: Thanks to everyone who contributed to the last newsletter. Please send your materials by the last week of June.

New Member Report

Five new members joined in March and April – two from the Kansas city area, one in Columbia, and one in Nebraska. One new member is from Arizona (outside our chapter area). Currently have a total of 103 members.

CAC Update

CAC meeting took place in February. The 2020 annual conference had 750 attendees. The 2021 conference will also be virtual. The committee is conducting a survey on Chapter Officers on topics such as event planning, succession of officers, etc.

Next CAC meeting is in May, next week. Leslie will share minutes when they become available.

Other Business

Chapter LinkedIn Group:

Rebecca sent out invitations to members to join the group. Currently the group has 26 members. We should post upcoming events on the group and Susan can include information about the page in our newsletter.

Charging a fee for chapter events:

Raeesa noticed that some of the other chapters charge an approximately \$10 fee for their events and asked what the other members thought about doing the same for our events. Joanne said some of these events may be chapter conferences that may have expenses associated with renting the venue and may charge a fee to recoup those costs. Fee may also be a way to ensure that people did not register for events and then drop out.

Members agreed with Rebecca that since our chapter finances are in good shape, we don't need to charge for the webinars. If we organized in-person workshops where the speakers had to be paid, charging a fee would be justified.

Next Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

Rebecca won't be available, so Liz will head the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.