



The Virginia Writers Club

Fostering the art, craft, business, and advocacy of the literary arts throughout the Commonwealth.

Board of Governors Meeting Minutes September 10, 2022 – 10:00am

DRAFT

Attendance	
Board Members Present:	Leslie Truex Sonja McGiboney Charles Tabb James Reynolds Susan Picerno Warren Groeger Jason Maddux Cydney Shields Paula Weiss Edwin Taylor Susan Schwartz Dan Walker Christopher Albanese
Board Meeting	
Call to Order	President Leslie Truex called the meeting (via Zoom) to order at 10:02am.
Approval of Agenda	President Truex presented the agenda. Edwin Taylor motioned to approve the agenda. Jim Reynolds seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
Approval of Minutes	President Truex presented the minutes from the June 11, 2022, meeting. Charles Tabb motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Warren Groeger seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
Correspondence	President Truex stated that all relevant correspondence received is already on today's agenda.
Treasurer's Report	Treasurer Betsy Ashton was not in attendance, so President Truex presented the Treasurer's report and offered to take any questions back to Treasurer Ashton. President Truex noted that Symposium spent more than it took in this year, but that accounting had reserves from prior years. President Truex also questioned whether the Richmond funds shown were distributed already.
New Business	
Upcoming Elections	President Truex advised that there has not been much interest in members serving in the executive positions come the November elections. Recording Secretary Jason Maddux has agreed to run again, and Treasurer Ashton also

	agreed to run for that position again if necessary. All Board of Governors members are encouraged to solicit interest from members of their chapters.
Golden Nib Journal Coordinator	President Truex stated the club was still in need of a coordinator for this year's Golden Nib Journal. Susan Picerno volunteered.
Hanover Chapter requests \$400 for Hanover Book Fair	<p>Second VP Charles Tabb presented the request. VWC has supported this event in the past. The Hanover chapter makes a little money from the event, which is used for the chapter's programming. The event is November 12. The VWC's IRS Employer ID Number is not used.</p> <p>Warren Groeger motioned to approve Hanover's request for a \$400 grant for the Hanover Book Fair. Sonja McGiboney seconded. The motion carried.</p>
Social media policies	President Truex presented a set of social media policies developed by the Northern Virginia Writers Club. These were presented as an information item, as President Truex believes they would be beneficial for the club. The matter was tabled until the new Board of Governors is elected.
National Association of Independent Writers and Editors proposed partnership	President Truex advised that the NAIWE has offer a "partnership" with the club. To date, that offer consists of 20% off the first year of membership to any VWC member provided the member signs up for an automatic renewal membership. The head of the NAIWE is a VWC member. Concerns were expressed with what else the partnership would and should entail. President Truex stated she would attempt to clarify.
VWC Zoom Account	<p>President Truex stated currently the club uses her own Zoom account for club business and presented the questions of whether the club should get its own account and whether the chapters should be able to utilize the club's account. Logistical issues of the latter question were discussed.</p> <p>James Reynolds motioned for the club to obtain its own Zoom account. Dan Walker seconded. The motion carried.</p> <p>Discussion on whether the chapters should be able to utilize the club's account was tabled.</p>
Old Business	
2022 Symposium	First VP Susan Schwartz presented the Symposium report. Overall the feedback was positive. While there was some negative feedback, it was noted that you can't please everybody and the club tries hard to make the Symposium affordable every year.
Annual Meeting	First VP Schwartz confirmed that Maggiano's (where the 2019 annual meeting was held) has been reserved for November 5. The speaker will be Donna Andrews. Menus are still being reviewed to determine the per person cost.
Golden Nib	President Truex advised that the chapters are in the process of sending their Golden Nib submissions to Treasurer Ashton, who is the coordinator this year.
Teen Nib and Young Reader Program	At large Member Michelle McBeth was not in attendance but sent a report that there is still a desire to create a mentor program. There also is interest in creating monthly meetings for teens to have workshops and critiques. These projects

	remain in the developmental stage.
Scholarships	Second VP Charles Tabb advised that Haley David, a rising sophomore at UVA, was the unanimous winner of this year's scholarship.
Legal Status of Chapters	James Reynolds presented the results of his review of the report prepared by an attorney a couple years ago following a review of the club's organizational documents and its relationship to the chapters. Mr. Reynolds agreed with the recommendation that the club should have directors and officers liability insurance. Mr. Reynolds also agreed that chapters should no longer be permitted to use the club's IRS Employer Identification Number. Mr. Reynolds recommend the club no longer manage the finances of chapters. If the club continues to do so, Mr. Reynolds recommends the club and chapter enter into an appropriate agreement. President Truex advised that she currently is the club's registered agent with the State of Virginia and is looking to pass that on at the end of her term, ideally to an "executive administrator" type. Mr. Reynolds concluded that the club's bylaws could use tightening in several places, but those changes are not pressing, i.e. the next board could form a bylaws committee to review and make recommendations.
Journal	Warren Groeger (journal coordinator) advised that Treasure Ashton is finishing the formatting for the next issue of the VWC Journal. Sean McBeth (At Large Member McBeth's husband) graciously provided the cover design. Once this edition is published, Mr. Groeger will meet with the three editors to discuss next year's schedule. Mr. Groeger advised there was \$500 remaining in the budget, and he intends to donate an equal amount next year with the idea to use it to hire a professional formatter and maybe cover designer. Mr. Groeger posed the question of whether the length of entries should be increased. Discussion of the pros and cons insured. The issue was tabled.
Use VWC's Amazon account by chapters to publish	Recording Secretary Maddux restated from the last BOG meeting that the Northern Virginia chapter plans to publish a 15 th anniversary anthology. The chapter does not have its own Amazon account and asked to use the club's account to publish the anthology. Concern was raised with the amount of administrative work that would be required of President Truex, who is the only person currently on the club's Amazon account (and there can be only one person), and of Treasurer Ashton to track, and distribute proceeds from, sales. Further discussion ensued on how the club could help the Northern Virginia chapter without imposing additional administrative burdens. President Truex agreed to undertake loading the final files to Amazon and to review the anthology for content appropriateness if necessary. James Reynolds recommended an agreement be put in place between the club and the Northern Virginia chapter memorializing any arrangement. Edwin Taylor motioned to approve the club using its Amazon account to publish the Northern Virginia chapter's anthology solely for the purpose of ordering a set number of author copies, to be determined and paid for in advance by the Northern Virginia chapter, after which time the anthology will be removed from the club's Amazon account. Warren Groeger seconded. The motion carried. Recording Secretary Maddux will draft an agreement memorializing the

	arrangement and present it to President Truex.
For the Good of the Order	
Adjournment	Charles Tabb motioned to adjourn. Paula Weiss seconded. The motion carried unanimously. President Truex adjourned the meeting at 11:42am.
Next Board Meeting	The Board will meet at the annual meeting on November 5, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason E. Maddux, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Leslie Truex, President
_____, 2022
