CALIFORNIA WRITERS CLUB
Central Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes Sunday, Oct 18, 2020
Online Via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m. by President Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal, who welcomed those attending and issued ground rules for the meeting.

ROLL CALL
- President - Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal
- Berkeley - Fred Dodsworth
- Central Coast - Adrienn Mendonca-Jones
- Coastal Dunes - Renee Geffken
- East Sierra - proxy held by Anthony Becker
- Fremont - Tish Davidson
- High Desert - Bob Isbill
- Inland Empire - Anthony Becker, Treasurer
- Long Beach - Allene Symons
- Marin - Mike Van Horn
- Mendocino - Doug Fortier
- Mt. Diablo - Elisabeth Tuck, Secretary
- Napa Valley Writers - Kymberlie Ingalls
- North State - Linda Sue Forrester
- Orange County - Jeanette Fratto, Member at Large
- Redwood Writers - Roger Lubeck, Vice President
- Sacramento - Kim Edwards
- San Fernando Valley - Bob Okowitz
- San Joaquin Valley - Leslie Liberty
- San Francisco Peninsula - Carole Bumpus, Norcal Chair
- South Bay Writers - Bill Baldwin
- Tri-Valley - Jordan Bernal
- Writers of Kern - Sandy Moffett, Membership, Chair CWC-South

The president declared a quorum and business could legally be conducted.

Guests: Linda Brown, Berkeley; Joyce Krieg, Central Coast; Era Martin, Long Beach; Brian Gaps, V.P., Orange County; Marlene Dotterer, Zoom hosting manager, Mt. Diablo.
SECRETARY’S REPORT – Elisabeth Tuck (Mt. Diablo)
Motion to approve minutes of July 19, 2020 Central Board meeting.
Moved by Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal
Ayes 22 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0 Passed unanimously.

There has been no e-business since July 21, 2019.

TREASURER’S REPORT Fiscal Year 2020-2021 – Anthony Becker (Inland Empire)
See the report “Central Board Budget, 2020-2021 July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.”
Motion to approve revised budget.
Moved by Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal
Ayes 22 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0 Passed unanimously.

Standing Committee Reports:
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – President Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal
See “CWC – Executive Committee Report: Activities undertaken by the Executive Committee and president From July 19, 2020 through October 5, 2020.”

MEMBERSHIP – Sandy Moffett (Writers of Kern)
Sandy has received 10 of the 22 reports due from branch treasurers/membership chairs. She has sent several reminders. Some branches are not receiving emails from Sandy. CB reps not named as having sent in their reports, will remind their branches, and Sandy will investigate why emails are not getting to branches.

MRMS: The President stressed the importance of keeping branch MRMS data current. Check branch configuration dates. A mistake can cause members to be dropped off.

BULLETIN – Bob Isbill (High Desert) for Rusty LaGrange (High Desert)
Sandy Moffett (Writers of Kern) volunteered to help Rusty by accepting submissions to the Bulletin, sending them to Rusty, and reminding branches to submit.

LITERARY REVIEW - President Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal thanked all who volunteered to work on the publication for this year. The publication came in under budget. The size and look are very different this year and very professional. It is due out in October.

NORCAL GROUP – Carole Bumpus (San Francisco Peninsula)
See “NORCAL GROUP REPORT TO STATE CWC BOARD – 10-3-2020”
NorCal wants to reach southern branches as well as northern. Today Carole is having trouble with her connection and is unavailable. We were unable to discuss the Norcal plans without Carole.
FRIENDS OF JOAQUIN MILLER PARK (FOJMP) Linda Brown (Berkeley)
See Linda’s report “Friends of Joaquin Miller Park / Annual Meeting 10/12/2020 at 7pm on ZOOM.”

EXTENDING THE RENEWAL DEADLINE TO DECEMBER VOTED ON AT THE JULY 19 MEETING.
Discussion: Most branches did not take advantage of this.

Motion: “To waive $20 renewal fee until December 31, 2020 for former members who have not renewed as of September 30 for branches that need to and at the discretion of each branch.”

Moved by Fred Dodworth (Berkeley)
Seconded by Bob Okowitz (San Fernando Valley)
Ayes 10 No 6 Abstain 5 Absent 1(San Francisco Peninsula)
Motion carries.

Motion for emergency powers.
See “Conducting Business in an Emergency (Revised)” Jeanette Fratto Member at Large (Orange)
Jeanette thanked Linda Brown (Berkeley) for her help and input.
Motion: Replace the final paragraph with: The president and/or the executive committee will determine when the above procedures are no longer necessary.

Moved by Jeanette Fratto (Orange County)
Seconded by Bob Isbill (High Desert)
Ayes 16 No 0 Abstain 4 Absent 1 (San Francisco Peninsula)
Motion carries.

LITERARY REVIEW
Fred Dodworth (Berkeley) thanked everyone listed on p. 4 of the 2020 Literary Review. He and Bob Isbill (High Desert) believe we should select one piece from every branch to put in the publication. President McCrohan-Rosenthal pointed out that as long as pieces are read blind, there’s no way to pick one from each branch. The aim is to select the best of the submissions. Fred agreed to repeat the tasks he did for this year’s Literary Review. Elisabeth Tuck (Mt. Diablo) volunteered to be the editor in charge with the understanding that David George (Mt. Diablo) will be the Submissions Manager and the board tolerates the plan to provide feedback to submitters after the judges are provided with guidelines for the feedback and are aware their comments will be sent to the submitting authors. [ed.note: It was subsequently decided to offer the option to opt out of receiving feedback.]

INTERPRETATION OF THE TERM “CWC MEMBER.” The practice has been that any CWC statewide member paying an admission or fee pays the same as a member of the branch holding the regular meeting however there is no directive in the P&P to this effect. This will be discussed at a future meeting.
JACK LONDON PARK.
- We send Friends of Joaquin Miller Park $50/year as Supporters. We have essentially grandfathered this. Do we continue to do so? No one objected.

President McCrohan-Rosenthal had earlier sent information to branches about Covid-19 and wildfire relief resources offered to qualifying authors by the Author’s League and other agencies. Although we don’t endorse or partner with the agencies, central board representatives may discuss the resources with their branches.

MRMS uses 2 languages: PHP and MYSQL. Roger Lubek (Redwood) needs to assemble a team to determine what we need from MRMS or a similar system and how do we achieve that? Sandy Moffett (Writers of Kern), Bob Isbill (High Desert), Jordan Bernal (Tri-Valley), Bill Baldwin (South Bay), Era Martin (Long Beach), and Brian Gaps (Orange) have volunteered.

Motion to adjourn
Moved by Jeanette Fratto (Orange County)
Seconded by Bob Isbill (High Desert)

Ayes 21 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 1 (San Francisco Peninsula)
Motion carries.

Executive Committee meeting scheduled for Sunday, January 24, 2021 via Zoom.

Next CB meeting in April 2021 via Zoom.

CB meeting in July 2021

President Donna McCrohan-Rosenthal (East Sierra) thanked Marlene Dotterer (Mt. Diablo), meeting Zoom manager.

Motion to adjourn:
Moved by Bob Okowitz
Seconded by Doug Fortier (Mendocino)
Ayes 21 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 1 (North State) Motion carries unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elisabeth Tuck Secretary, California Writers Club
Central Board of Directors October 18, 2020