** NEST Board Meeting**

​**August 25, 2021 Minutes**

**Present**: Cris Riedel, Lynn Schweikart, Chris Donnald, Rona Leventhal, Barbara Aliprantis, ChaChanna Simpson, Linda Schuyler Ford, Lori Cipot

**Meeting Start:** 6:37pm

**Call to Order**

**Motion to approve the July Minutes: Approved (6-0)** Motion by Barbara, Seconded by Cris

**Consent Agenda**

* **Outreach Report (Request for Discussion of Mentorship Program on agenda)**
* **President’s Report (Items needing discussion are part of agenda.)**
* **Program (Request for Discussion of MuseHour on agenda)**
* **Governance**
* **Tech**

**Motion to approve the above reports submitted for the board meeting: Approved(6-0)** Motion by Cris, Seconded by Rona

**President’s Report**

* **Update on Transition**
	+ Lynn talked about the rapid transition taking place.
	+ There is a complicated process involved in changing who is authorized to access the Webster Bank account. Webster Bank requires confirmation that the Board authorizes Deborah Roe to add Lynn Schweikart, Stephanie Tassinari and Cristine Riedel to the account, with Cristine as the administrator, while removing Pearl Lewis from the account. Lori Cipot has view-only access.
		- **Motion to approve the above changes to the Webster Bank Account: REAFFIRMING THAT DEBORAH ROE HAS THE AUTHORITY ON BEHALF OF NEST TO ADD LYNN SCHWEIKART, STEPHANIE TASSINARI, AND CRISTINE RIEDEL TO THE NEST BANK ACCOUNT WITH CRISTINE RIEDEL AS THE ADMINISTRATOR, WHILE REMOVING PEARL LEWIS FROM THE ACCOUNT.**

**Approved (6-0) Motion by Cris, Seconded by Linda**.

* + Stephanie and Lori have been added as users to NEON. The nestorytelling@gmail.org has been transferred to Stephanie. Lori now has her own NEST email. Stephanie and Lori have been added to the Google Drive and ChaChanna needs access. Lynn brought up increasing storage space on Google Drive..
		- **Motion to increase the storage limit on the Google Drive account:**

 **Approved (6-0) Motion by Cris, Seconded by Rona**

* + The phone number on the website has been transferred to Stephanie. Stephanie will be added to the Social Media sites as someone able to post. The board decided to switch from QuickBooks to a subscription service through Tech Soup to make it easier for multiple people to access. Chris Donnald will continue to be paid through PayPal, and Stephanie will be added to the Zoom accounts. Both Zoom accounts are going to continue to stay active.
* **STF 2022/2023/24**
	+ Lynn reached out about pricing at the Portsmouth Sheraton and the prices for 2023 will be the same prices as 2022, while the room rates will go up $10/room/night for 2024. Rona asked if it was set to be in Portsmouth for the next 3 years, but BOD will wait for the formal RFP from Conference Hotels Unlimited before deciding.
	+ For STF 2022, Lynn, Rona and Stephanie will be doing a site visit to the Sheraton Portsmouth on September 7, 2021.
* **Membership Renewal**
	+ Membership renewal notices have gone out through NEON and people are starting to respond.
* **Board Retreat**
	+ The retreat is scheduled for 11/6 at Barbara’s place. There is a contingency plan if in-person is deemed unsafe due to covid.
* **Deb Gift**
	+ Cris reached out to Mark and found out that a donation to one of the charities from Deb’s book would be a good choice as a gift. There was a discussion about which charity to support. It was decided to make a $200 donation to the Helping Read Charity in Deb’s name, as well as give her a lifetime NEST membership.

**Outreach**

* Linda has been keeping the blog going and getting new articles in the Queue. ChaChanna has relaunched the NEST Instagram account and has been working on growing the account and sharing events and being more interactive on the account.
* ChaChanna and Barbara have been working on a mentorship program for new NEST members. The Board was very enthusiastic about the idea, and Barbara and ChaChanna will brainstorm to flesh out the idea for the next Board Meeting. for the next board meeting.

**Program**

* **MuseHour**
	+ Linda reported on the MuseHour idea, where people who were approved for workshops at the cancelled STF conferences in 2020 and 2021 might be able to offer their workshops in a 90-minute Zoom format. Linda brought up a discussion about rotation, frequency, and payments. Rona suggested presenters should be paid what they were offered previously. Cris said that this would require charging for the workshops. Lynn said that maybe offering them 75% of the money brought in would be appropriate. Linda talked about how fewer people might show up to a Zoom event after the previous year of all virtual events. Lynn and Linda will explore the possibility of a workshop event in November with a Happy Hour ending and possible story slam.

**New Business**

* None to report

**Old Business**

* None to report

Next Meeting: September 30, at 6:30pm

Meeting Adjourned: **Motion to end the meeting: Approved (6-0)** Motion by Barbara, Seconded by ChaChanna at 7:53 pm