

## **New Mexico State Poetry Society Board Meeting Minutes, March 15, 2018**

Jules' Poetry Playhouse – Albuquerque

**Present:** Bernadette Perez, President; Iris Gersh, Vice President; Teri Klein, Treasurer; Dino de Leyba, Secretary; Jules Nyquist, Membership and Social Media Chair; Ginny Gaskill, Convention Chair and Shirley Blackwell, Past President and National Federation of State Poetry Societies Liaison

**Absent:** Quorum met

President calls meeting to order at 6:12 p.m., Terri Klein reads a “financial” poem

Approval of Board Minutes of January 11, 2018 - in process

### **NMSPS Convention – Albuquerque, NM – April 28, 2018; Voices of an Enchanted Land**

- Event held at South Valley Multipurpose Center, Ginny Haskill and Dante Berry, co-chairs, Ginny reports on workshops and publishers' panel; Draft of event particulars provided; Food cost quoted by Conchita's Café at 60 attendees, breakfast, lunch and evening event. To revisit head count as event approaches, monetary deposit in process - Conchita's Café, 400 Gold Ave Ste 119 Downtown Albuquerque
- Shirley Blackwell to host bookstore at event, particulars discussed: money handling, and distribution of sales to authors post event, website to include specifics of participating – discussion regarding use of Square device for collection money or similar application
- Iris and Terri to host registration desk
- A moment of silence to acknowledge deceased members planned
- Special Awards: discussion included the discontinuance of monetary recognition
- Jules to promote event on Poet Hearts and on Calendar Events
- Board nomination year – search committee to be determined
- Chapter chair(s), and project leader appointments determined at annual general meeting as close to April 9th as possible
- Next convention meeting with seated board and event co-chairs scheduled for April 12, 6 p.m. Flying Star Restaurant in Nob hill
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### **NFSPS National Convention 2018 – Denver, CO - May 31-June 3, 2018**

- Might there be opportunity to carpool?; Five delegates to attend from NM, need attend strategic planning session and vote on Federation business – requires letter from NMSPS to attend in this capacity, delegates include Bernadette Perez, Shirley Blackwell, Jules Nyquist, Ginny Haskill and possibly Debbie Eagen (Iris will reach out to Debbie); registration fees will be reimbursed to Bernadette Perez, Ginny Haskill and Debbie Eagan, Jules and Shirley declined reimbursement; registration receipt required for reimbursement
- Youth Awards – NMSPS submits request to sponsor
- Official date to submit national dues is March 15 to allow for participation in 2019 NFSPS poetry contest
- Official date to submit national dues is March 15 to allow for active member participation in 2019 NFSPS poetry contest

### **NFSPS National Convention 2019 – Santa Fe, NM – June 24-26, Pre-event June 23**

- Event Site: Hotel Santa Fe and Sage Inn – to share facilities for event
- Ginny Haskill voted in as official Chair, to choose co-chair
- Board to visit Santa Fe in April – date to be determined

- Possible visit to NM Capital Building – to be determined
- Bernadette to prepare promo for Denver convention
- Announcement to be made at NMSPS Convention April 2018

**Poet's Picnic** - Open Space Visitors Center, Albuquerque, NM – May 26, 2018

- Two hundred and fifty dollars has been budgeted for this event, Scott Wiggerman is event host
- NMSPS table to be made available, Andi Penner and Bonnie Rucobo to host table; book of poetry produced by Reginald Chavez' elementary student's / NMSPS Children's Poetry Project, to be made available
- Book sales - table opportunities, contact Scott Wiggerman

**Indy Lens PopUp Documentary Event** – Keshet Center for the Arts– April 18, 2018 –

Look & See: Wendell Berry's Kentucky is a portrait of changing landscapes and shifting values of rural America in the era of industrial agriculture, as seen through the mind's eye of award-winning writer and farmer Wendell Berry, back home in his native Henry Country, Kentucky

- Forty five minute poet workshops available – opportunity to participate
- Not televised, yet broadcast on PBS post event
- Board suggestions of possible presenters: Gail Lauradunn, Teresa Gallion, Bill Nevins

**Chapter Reports:**

- **Santa Fe – Debbi Brody, by email**  
Jeffrey Wright – Spring 2017 – March 5 open mic, 33 readers; will be teaching a poetry unit to a bi-lingual fourth grade class at Nina Otero School, as an introduction to their poetry month activities and will coordinate to bring other poets in for the remainder of the month. Although the city of Santa Fe has dropped their poet laureate program as they have been overwhelmed with short sessions since 2016, several Santa Fe poets have been invited to read a poem prior to the council session at the county, as they consider taking on the laureate program; Attendance at open mic events has been excellent; have sold books to raise funds for Teatro Paraguas which hosts poetry events on any given Sunday as well as the open mic free of charge; have exchanged and given away poetry books at each monthly reading and meeting as well
- **President's Report:** leads discussion on NFSPS Convention 2018 Denver, NMSPS Annual Convention 2018 Albuquerque and NFSPS Convention 2019 Santa Fe and presidential endeavor to sponsor youth division Contest 50; Strophes article submitted from NM;
- **Vice President's Report:** Children's Poetry Project, underway
- **Secretaries' Report:** Board minutes of January 11, 2018 board meeting were provided although not approved to date; elected board has met on several occasions to discuss 2018 State Convention particulars – informal notes taken will be provided for formal filing purposes
- **Membership Report:** 81 paid members (2 youth)
- **Treasurer Report:** Bank reconciliation as of February 28, 2018
  - Balances: Checking \$2,102.32
  - Interest-Earning Shared Draft - \$6,268.99
  - NM State Poet Laureate Fund - \$5,000.57

❖ **Budget Notes:**

- Budgeted \$50 to sponsor NFSPS poetry contest Junior Division, actual cost to do so, \$200, under budgeted \$150
- Budgeted \$225 to sponsor NMSPS poetry contest on national level, actual cost to do so, \$150, over budgeted by \$75
- Budgeted \$25 to sponsor the NM/AZ Book Awards, actual cost to do so \$25, over budgeted \$75
  - Decided to take the monies over-budgeted and apply to the sponsorship of the Junior Division contest at the national level – Contest 50 – Request to sponsor this category submitted to national student activity division
- Comment made by Shirley Blackwell about speaking with Phil Peach at Denver convention regarding release of the \$5,000 he donated for the NM State Poet Laureate Project – no discussion

❖ **Misc. General Discussion:**

- Schedule conversation regarding dues, payment of and how this applies to term of membership, benefits of membership including student membership – may require amendment to Constitution
- Albuquerque Sign Language Academy and the Flying Words Project led by Rafe Martinez has been postponed – NMSPS had agreed to sponsor at last board meeting.

**Next board meeting:** Tentative: Saturday June 23, Sage Inn Santa Fe

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dino de Leyba, 2017-2018 NMSPS Board Secretary