

Red Press Society

September 8, 2017, 2:00 PST, 5:00 EST

Stobbart residence and offices

Minutes

Present:

Jess Wind, President

Dessa Bayrock, Secretary

Aymee Leake, Treasurer

Katie Stobbart, Ex Officio

Absent:

Jessica Milliken, Member-At-Large

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Called to order at 2:07.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Agenda approved.

3. APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

- Minutes approved.

4. REPORTS

4.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Given by: Jess Wind

- Has been working with Aymee to reimburse Tony.
- Has also been working with Aymee to sort out G-Suite, and at the same time to take us down to three email addresses instead of four to save \$5 per month.
- Has been working on upcoming events / delegating tasks around both the painting night at Memento Mori and the Fraser Valley Writers' Festival
 - The Writers' Fest is basically at the point where all we need to do is be applying for grants and money.

4.2 TREASURER'S REPORT

Given by: Aymee Leake

RE: Reimbursements

- Our current balance is \$1150.65
- Tony has finally, finally, wonderfully, been reimbursed.
- We owe Aymee and Katie money for some other little things but we can tackle those more leisurely.
- We are currently having issues with G-suite, which is our email server. Right now it's on Aymee's credit card because we don't have an RPS credit card, and Aymee is in talks with Google to see if we can hook it up directly to the bank account.
- We've settled with EventBrite and also set it up for our upcoming painting event.
- We've also done some budgeting for the event and settled on a ticket cost that will let us make some profit.
- Aymee has also built a draft budget for the AGM, which is under review by other board members.

4.3 RASPBERRY REPORT

Given by: Katie

RE: Organization and contents

- We had a really great discussion at our last RPS meeting about how we could improve the content and form and function of the magazine.
- After the RPS meeting, Katie put together a Raspberry Core Team Meeting to discuss what the magazine should look like going forward.
- The result: Raspberry has decided to publish on a seasonal rather than a monthly basis, which is good for several reasons:
 - It will be less stressful on staff and editors
 - It will be easier to put together good content because each issue will cover more ground
 - It will be easier to take on other tasks, eg, making sure issues don't collide with events
 - It will be easier to scare up more content if we come up dry, because the deadline will be quite in advance of the actual publication date
- The new schedule will see it publishing in November, February, May, and August with the deadline on the fifteenth of the previous month.
- Val is working with current contributors and staff and prospective contributors to make sure everyone is happy in their roles and to make sure the magazine is a welcoming and productive place for new writers and artists.

- Katie and Aymee have made a comprehensive list of changes to be made to the Raspberry website, so by the time we publish the next issue we should also have an updated website.
- The only thing up in the air is how this new schedule will affect ongoing advertising agreements, but we don't have that many agreements at the moment and it should be pretty easy to work out.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 UPDATE ON GRANTS

- Jess and Katie have been in touch with (UFV Liason) Andrea MacPherson about grants for the writing festival, getting info about Canada Council arts grants.
- The festival is also eligible for the Arts Across Canada Outreach Grant.
 - The deadline is November 10, and the maximum amount we'd be eligible for is \$100,000, although most organisations don't get above \$30,000.
- We're eligible for B.C. Gaming funds, although we missed the deadline.
- We may also be eligible for City funding, according to Aymee.

5.2 UPDATE ON TABLING / PROMO

- The tabling season is pretty well over for the summer so we'll strike this as a permanent item on the agenda going forward.
- Katie will be appearing at several events in the near future as a Raspberry / Red Press rep, including the publishing panel at UFV again.
- Also, there's no better place to put this maybe, but Katie's been nominated for an Arty award, and if that's not good promo, I don't know what is!

5.3 UPDATE ON PAINTING NIGHT MEMENTO MORI

- Aymee is spearheading this, with Chris at Memento Mori.
- The official name is now "Lushes and Brushes" ... or else "Brushes and Lushes."
- The ticket price will be \$35 a person, with a max of 40 people.
- Canvases have been sourced from the dollar store, at \$2 a canvas and at 11"x14". Aymee would like to get 45 canvases, with two for back-up and two for instruction.
- Aymee is working on a poster design, which she'll pass around.
- What we still need brushes, but Aymee is on it.
- Chris is taking care of the liquor licence and talking to Ravens Brewing about a partnership, and the theme of the painting is a raven which should grease the wheels a little bit.
- The date will be Sunday, October 15, at 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- This also would be a good time to put together a logo for the paint night to throw around places.

- Once we have a logo, we can start throwing it around on social media.
- We could also possibly spend some \$\$ on Facebook advertising.
- We'll be setting up the Facebook event, and then Memento Mori can throw that around on their social media as well.

5.4 UPDATE ON FRASER VALLEY WRITING FESTIVAL

- We haven't nailed down a date yet, but it will almost definitely be on a Friday and Saturday and right now we're aiming for the first week of March.
- Andrea is extraordinarily knowledgeable re: budgets, re: who should be part of the talent, etcetera. She has a lot in her brain and we have to get it out.
- Grants are trucking along, as above. There's a lot of interest and enthusiasm in the English department.
- There is, however, a huge setback in terms of space; we had been operating on the assumption that we could use the Student Union Building at no cost, as we had in the past, but the Student Union recently decided that non-profit organizations and charities will be charged the same rental fee as outside companies / corporations... which is \$7000. Which is a big jump from \$0 and will require either some sweet-talking or some serious logistical rejigging.
- Otherwise, just throwing around ideas for who to have in as speakers, what we want the festival to be like.
- Katie has a Google drive going to organize any ideas and info we have rolling around.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 RAISEBERRY

- Last year we decided to plan an annual fundraising event, and there were difficult aspects because we didn't leave ourselves as much time and room to plan as we thought we did. So it might be good to start putting together an outline and plan for the fundraiser sooner rather than later.
- We're also going to host it in June instead of March, like last year, because then we'll avoid both a production cycle and clashing with the writers' festival.
- Anyone who is interested in planning part of that event or part of part of that event can start expressing interest now.

6.2 COMMITTEES

- This is a good time to think about forming committees again - one for the writers' fest and one for Raiseberry.
- Jess cautions members to probably not be on both because it's going to be so much work.
- Katie will be on both but she's going to try really hard to not over-exert herself.

- Aymee will be on the Raiseberry committee because literature is nice but not really her jam.
- Jess and Dessa will be on the writers' fest committee because literature is very much their jam.
- We should also form a membership committee to get our membership details sorted in advance of the AGM.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

- October 6, 2 p.m. PST, 5 p.m. EST
- Katie's house seems to work as a location
- It's Aymee's birthday so she'll bring cake.

8. ADJOURNMENT

- Adjourned at 3 p.m. on the dot.