

Gulf Coast Writers Association
Executive Committee Meeting
August 10, 2015
Fairfield Inn

Meeting was called to order by Don Cappelli, Vice President at 5:36 PM.

Attendance: Jennifer Fitzgerald, Irene Smith, Don Cappelli, Carla Webb, Barbara Burnett, Mike Neal, Tim Jacobs, representing the Corporate Board

Secretary, Carla Webb presented the July 14, 2015 Executive Committee minutes. Motion to accept minutes was made by Jennifer Fitzgerald, seconded by Irene. Motion passed.

Minutes for the July 18, 2015 General Meeting were presented. Jennifer Fitzgerald made a motion to accept the minutes. Mike Neal seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Minutes for the June 20, 2015, General Meeting were read and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Mike Neal, seconded by Irene Smith. Motion passed.

Don Cappelli gave treasurer's report. See attached sheet. Motion to accept treasurer's report was made by Jennifer Fitzgerald, seconded by Barbara Burnett. Motion passed.

Irene Smith, Membership, reported 65 people in attendance at the July meeting. 17 were guests and 3 new members were added to the membership. GCWA now has 197 members.

Mike Neal made a suggestion that a committee be formed to call people who are not renewing their membership. Discussion followed. The Executive Committee decided to discuss this at a later meeting. This would not happen until after March 2016.

Barbara Burnett, Publicity, reported that a new publication has been added to our list of publications that will post announcements for GCWA.

Mike Neal, Programming, gave out a list of speakers for 2015-2016.

Committee discussed the change in locations for several meetings. One change will be at the February 2016, meeting. Location will be The Alliance for the Arts. At this meeting, the GCWA Writing Contest winners will be announced and honored. Several members requested that a lesson from the Grammar Granny, Martha Jeffers, be given at the August meeting. Irene said she would call Martha to see if she would present her lesson at the August meeting.

Mike Neal showed the committee a picture of pens that he suggested might be ordered and given to the speakers as a gift. He will work up the cost of ordering these pens and will present this at the next meeting.

Committee discussed the possibilities of hiring someone to set up and take down the tables and chairs. Irene asked if committee should look into paying someone to make the coffee and provide refreshments. No decision was made on either suggestion. Committee will continue with this discussion at the next meeting.

Carla Webb reported on Special Projects for Alice Oldford. Alice and her sub-committee on the Workshop/Retreat for 2016 asked the Executive Committee for \$2500.00 to paid Kim Weitkamp, a nationally known storyteller, for her services and her expenses for the Workshop/Retreat. A discussion followed. The committee asked that most, if not all the money given for the speaker, be recouped by charging members \$50.00 and non-members \$100.00 to attend the workshops. Carla Webb reported that the sub-committee would do this. Members of the sub-committee will be looking for sponsors to help with the cost.

Following the discussion, a motion was made by Don Cappelli to amend the budget for 2015-2016 for Special Projects. 2,500.00 will be added to the existing budget. Jennifer Fitzgerald seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A special announcement will be made at the August 2015 General meeting regarding the Workshop/Retreat taking place April 2016. An Ocean Cruise will be the venue.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM by Don Cappelli.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Webb, Secretary

