

Alaska Center for the Book Annual Meeting

June 29, 2011

Minutes

Attending: Jessie Nixon, Mark Weber, Carol Sturgulewski, Trish Jenkins, Camille Oliver, and Sara Juday attended the annual meeting held on the sunny deck at Sara's house.

Treasurer's Report: Lila was unable to attend the meeting but submitted her report electronically. ACB's net income January 1-June 29, 2011 was \$698.02, of which \$122.45 was earned from book sales at various library programs. Copies of her full report are available upon request.

Minutes from the May 18 meeting were distributed and read. Carol moved to approve, Mark seconded, and all agreed.

Bruce Hale Events: great stories of kids recognizing him as the author of "those" books and a woman who bought \$90 worth of books because she wants her son to be a reader.

Letters about Literature: Jessie reports that recruiting for judges for this year has started.

Creative Writing Contest: Sara reported that most judges have made their decisions. In discussion some members who served as judges suggested that we might consider a word limit on submissions. The question of whether we continue as a coordinating agency was raised. Sara suggested that after two years, systems are in place, though if entries increase much, we will need some additional support. An intern might be recruited to help with some of the logistics.

CLIA Awards: This year's awards will be presented at the July 19 author readings of the Northern Renaissance series sponsored by UAA's Creative Writing and Literary Arts program in the Arts 150 room. The winner from out-of-town will not be able to attend, but her boss will be accepting the award for her. ACB will provide snacks for the reception after the reading and awards.

Bookfest: At this time it looks like Karen Keller and Jessie Nixon will represent ACB at the National Bookfest. Trish will alert National Center for the Book and will send out emails requesting help soliciting the giveaways. She will also contact Sue Sherif at the Alaska State Library about possible COSLA funding again this year. In addition to the usual calendars from Anchorage Daily News, maps from ATIA, recipes from the Seafood Marketing Institute, and posters from the Anchorage Museum, we talked about other possible giveaways. Trish will contact LitSite, Sarah Hurst, and the Alaska Native Knowledge network about additional items. In addition, we brainstormed other others, including developing a new bookmark listing books featured by ACB for Alaska Native Heritage Month over the last 10 years. Trish suggested we contact Jeanne Breinig about an intern to design the pieces? We could use the

bookmarks for Bookfest and Alaska Native Heritage Month. We also talked about producing a temporary tattoo with our bear logo or little metal buttons.

Community Reads: Trish will email her contact to let him know she will not be able to help with the selection committee. One of the books they are considering is the Maltese Falcon by Dashiell Hammett. If they pick that we could do a mystery jeopardy.

UAA Books of the Year: Still need to identify an event for ACB to organize for the larger community. The Conversation Salon at Loussac will be focused on the Money and Morality theme this fall. They are looking for a moderator. Trish also mentioned that Difficult Dialogues is presenting a forum on Emerging Economics. Another idea for ACB is to host a movie night related to the themes and hold a talk before and after the movie.

Alaska Book Week: Friends of the Library are doing an event during the October week. We talked about doing a discussion about the literature of place and how it contributes to our collective identity.

Alaska Native Heritage Month: Nick Charles will be talking about Alaska Native Masks.

Other announcements: 49 Writers is hosting Danny Shapiro in Anchorage on August 31.

General discussion about future projects and initiatives. We generally have more ideas than people to do them, including membership promotion and solicitation. Some ideas that surfaced:

- Regular Jeopardy presentations for fun and membership promotion
- Get Caught Reading contest – people submit photos of themselves or others and there would be prizes for winning photos.
- Invite kids to produce short videos about reading – another contest opportunity?? Could be themed: favorite book, first book I read myself, favorite book someone read to me....
- An oral history of readers (can't quite remember what this was, but sounds good)
- Tie Alaska literature to Alaska history course
- Solicit Alaska celebrities to promote reading...Kathleen McCoy might be a good source for ideas for this.

One idea that sparked the most discussion was creating an Alaska Center for the Book Facebook page that would incorporate some of the elements of the NPR Facebook reading page but with an Alaskan theme??? We could post a question each week and our “friends” could have a conversation. We could post pictures from events. Each Board member would handle the page for one month and it would rotate like that. It would be a way for us to reach across. We want to increase our visibility and our reputation as the “reading people.

OFFICER ELECTION: The following slate of officers was approved for the next year:

Trish Jenkins, President; Carol Sturgulewski, Vice President; Sara Juday, Secretary; and Lila Vogt, Treasurer

Next meeting TBD.