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Alaska Center for the Book
Annual Meeting Minutes
June 23, 2020

ATTENDEES via ZOOM: Page Brannon, Christina Gheen, Trish Jenkins, Sara Juday, Camille Oliver, Sarah Preskitt, Lila Vogt, Mark Weber, and Toby Widdicomb.

MAY MEETING MINUTES APPROVED with addition of Sarah Preskitt to list of attendees and a few additional corrections.

FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED. Pick-Click-Give donations look to be up this year. Not sure if they will arrive early this year since payments are going out early as well.

ALASKA READS: Waiting to hear from Alaska State Arts Council on \$2900 grant application and Usibelli Foundation regarding a \$1700 grant proposal that will cover mostly travel. Algonquin Books is donating \$500. Algonquin is the publisher of Finding the Good by Heather Lende, this year's selection. Alaska Airlines turned down the request for help. Hometown Alaska and Talk of Alaska will each have Heather Lende as a guest. Hometown Alaska is confirmed for a program during Alaska Book Week. Waiting to see if travel will be possible and if any venues will be able to host her. The plan was to announce selection in August at the AKLA conference, which had been a 3-4 day physical conference but has been converted to a 1-day online conference. In the previous meeting Rayette had volunteered to contact Freya Anderson at AKLA about if the announcement is possible in the new format and/or if Heather Lende could be included as a featured author talk.

CLIA: Carol reports that she will send out packets this week, and suggests we have the awards ceremony during Alaska Book Week, when we can piggyback onto our other awards event for the creative writing contest, etc. She reminded us that we don't have the option of going in with the MFA program since that's been canceled.

ALASKA BOOK WEEK: The committee met June 8 and they are planning for a mostly virtual celebration, though if venues open, some in-person events could be considered. Reaching out statewide with an invitation to participate that will be mailed in mid-July with a follow-up invitation in August. Other programs include:

- Reading Alaska Haiku Collection: Reach out to Alaska writers to participate but encourage wider group to write a haiku about Alaska books and post it on Facebook.
- Create a YouTube Channel where we would post 3-minute videos about their book, with information on how to purchase. This could generate revenue??
- Alaska Native Storytelling: Would like to include an event.
- Alaska Native Media Group: Contacted about how they might participate.
- Zoom celebration of UAA/Anchorage Daily News Creative Writing Contest (and CLIA Awards). It would be a live Zoom gathering. Would need to do a practice to make sure it works???
- How to Get Published: Sharon Emmerichs who has secured an agent but is not yet published is willing to do a Zoom presentation on her experience.
- Facebook conversations: Sharon will also work on overseeing a conversation on Facebook leading up to and include Alaska Book Week to generate interest in Alaska books.
- Alaska Reads launch. There will be a meeting in mid-July to discuss this.