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ALASKA CENTER FOR THE BOOK

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 6, 2021

MINUTES

ATTENDING VIA ZOOM: Sara Juday Amy Thomas, Mark Weber, Camille Oliver, Rayette Sterling, Trish Jenkins, Sarah Preskitt, and guest Simonetta Mignano.

SIMONETTA WITH THE BIVY GALLERY: Simonetta Mignano of the Bivy Gallery in Anchorage invited us to collaborate for a series of reading events she's been hosting online through a school project she co-founded with two others.

They host programs in which a book, chosen in advanced, is read out loud its entirety by different volunteers taking turns. Each program is schedule to take at least three hours. There's a welcome, explaining the event will go until the end of the book. When it's over there's no debriefing or discussion. The readings have an organic flow, someone starts reading, and when they stop someone else picks up. They read short stories, prose and poetry, usually sticking to books that are 70 to 80 pages long.

The event itself is free to attend and listeners in past programs have included a diverse group across the globe. Originally, they gained followers from the Bivy, and grew from there. They use the gallery's social network and newsletter to invite people, but with funding they could advertise to a wider audience.

In order to secure a grant to promote the program they need to work with a 501C3, and would like us to be that nonprofit group. They would like to do three events this fall, once a month- maybe one in August, and one in September and another in October for sure. As part of the grant she would need to include a tradition bearer. Simonetta has an indigenous friend she thinks would work well for the project, Melissa Scheganoff. We could tie the events into Alaska Book Week and Native American Heritage Month.

Ideas for the next program include authors Nick Jans, Ilena Davis, Joan Cane, Seth Kanter, (Shopping for Porcupine) , Heather lende (Find the Good) If we do events this fall as she suggested we could tie them into Alaska Book Week and Native American Heritage Month.

CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST:

Sara is compiling the letters, certificates and checks to go out to winners on Friday, May 7th. Announcements will go in the Daily News on Sunday, May 9, and the first prize pieces will be online so people can read the full stories. We did not have to buy prizes as LitSite covered that, but we do have to cover postage.

ACB 30th (un)BIRTHDAY PARTY

Sara sent out letters before the meeting and the group leaned toward "Celebrating 30 years". We will